Appendix II.

Vide **Answer to Question No. 119.**

List of documents registered.

	Month.	*Number of documents.*
1120	Chingom	... 38,298
	Kanni	... 39,308
	Tulam	... 46,842
	Vrischigom	... 43,039
	Dhanu	... 29,132
	Makarom	... 37,736
	Kumbhom	... 48,523
	Meenom	... 49,441
	Medom	... 39,818
	Edavom	... 53,788

PRESIDENT: I have received notice of an adjournment for the business of the House on the following ground: Mr. Kadakavur P. Madhavan says:—

> "I move a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance namely the necessity of fixing the prices of husk and soaked husk in view of the sealing prices of coir of different qualities in order to relieve the difficulties of the poor labourers."

I rule that the motion is neither urgent nor is it of public importance. The very same matter has been pending at least for two years.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.—(*contd.*)

MR. P. C. ADICHAN (*Nominated*): സർ, ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഐശ്വര്യസമൃദ്ധിയെ ലാക്കാക്കി ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന അടുത്ത കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറിനെ ദേശാഭിമാനമുള്ള ഏതൊരാളും അഭിനന്ദിക്കുകതന്നെചെയ്യും. യുദ്ധാനന്തരപുനഃസംവിധാനപദ്ധതികളിൽ ഏറ്റവും പ്രാധാന്യം അർഹിക്കുന്നതായി പറയുന്നത് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമാണ്. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന് ഈ പ്രാധാന്യം കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നതുതന്നെ വളരെ ദീർഘദൃഷ്ടിയോടുകൂടിയാണെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കാൻ പല ന്യായങ്ങളുണ്ട്. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഇൻഡ്യാസാമ്രാജ്യത്തിലുള്ള സകല രാജ്യങ്ങളിലുംവച്ച് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ വളരെ മുന്നണിയിലാണ് സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നതെന്നു അഭിമാനിക്കാമെങ്കിലും, ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ പിന്നോക്കസമുദായക്കാർ മറ്റുള്ള എല്ലാ രാജ്യത്തെക്കാളും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ വളരെ പിന്നോക്കം നിൽക്കുകയാ

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ന്നെന്നുള്ള സംഗതിക്കുടി ഓർക്കുമ്പോഴാണ്, മേൽപ്പറഞ്ഞ പുനരുദ്ധാരണസംവിധാനപദ്ധതിയിൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്ന പ്രാധാന്യം എത്രമാത്രമാണെന്നു് നമുക്കു് മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാൻ കഴിയുന്നതു്. ഒരു പടി കടന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ അവശസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ സാക്ഷരതാ നില, ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ മറ്റെല്ലാ രാജ്യങ്ങളേക്കാളും പിന്നോക്കമാണെന്നു മാത്രമല്ല, നമ്മുടെ അയൽരാജ്യമായ കൊച്ചിയുടെ പുത്തിൽ ഒരംശംപോലുമില്ലെന്നു് മനസ്സിലാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടുതന്നെയാണു് സർ, അങ്ങു് നിർബന്ധിത പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം നടപ്പിലാക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്നതു് എന്നു ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതിൽ തെറ്റില്ലെന്നുതോന്നുന്നു. കൊച്ചിയിലെ പിന്നോക്കസമുദായക്കാരുടെ ഇടയിൽ സാക്ഷരതാ ഉള്ളവർ ഫ. ൦ ശതമാനം ഉള്ളപ്പോൾ സാക്ഷരതാവും, പ്രായപൂർത്തിവോട്ടവകാശവുമാണു് ഉത്തരവാദഭരണത്തിന്റെ അടിസ്ഥാനമെങ്കിൽ ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ ഒരു വലിയ ജനവിഭാഗത്തിന്റെ സാക്ഷരതാനിലയെ ഉയർത്തിയതിന്റെശേഷം, ഉത്തരവാദഭരണം കൊടുക്കുന്നതു് നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നു കരുതി അതിന്റെ ഒരു കളമൊരുക്കൽ എന്നോണമാണു് നിർബന്ധിത വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം തുടപ്പിലാക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതു എന്നു് ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

തിരുവനന്തപുരം, കോട്ടയം, നാഗരുകോവിൽ ഈ പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ ഫ്രീ കമ്പൾസറി പ്രൈമറി എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ നടപ്പാക്കുന്നതായി ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഒരു പക്ഷേ ഫ്രീ എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ എന്നു മാത്രം പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ അതിനു പ്രത്യേകം ഒന്നും പറയുവാനില്ല. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവിഷയത്തിൽ, യാതൊരു പ്രോത്സാഹനവുമില്ലാത്ത മറ്റുള്ള സമുദായക്കാർ അവരുടെ കുട്ടികളെ ശരിയായ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ചെയ്യിക്കുന്നതായി നാം കാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആ നിലക്കു് ഫ്രീ എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ എന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അതു് അവശസമുദായക്കാരെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചുകൂടിയാണെന്നു വിചാരിക്കാൻ തരമില്ല. എന്നാൽ മറ്റെല്ലാം സൗജന്യങ്ങളും ചെയ്തിട്ടും പള്ളിക്കൂടത്തിൽ പോകാത്ത അവശസമുദായങ്ങളെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു മാത്രമാണു് നിർബന്ധിതവിദ്യാഭ്യാസമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

അവശസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവിഷയത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു രണ്ടു നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും കൂടി ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ എനിക്കു നൽകുവാനുണ്ടു്. ഇപ്പോൾ മൂന്നും നാലും ക്ലാസ്സുകളിൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന കുട്ടികൾക്കു് പുസ്തകങ്ങളും സൗജന്യമായി വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു്. മൂന്നും നാലും

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[Mr. P. C. Adichan]

ക്ലാസ്സുകളിൽ പഠിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ഒന്നും രണ്ടും ക്ലാസ്സുകളും പാസ്സാകണം. അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ട സ്ലേറ്റു്, പുസ്തകം മുതലായവ കിട്ടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ ക്ലാസ്സുകളിൽ പഠിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാത്ത അനവധി കുട്ടികൾ ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് പുസ്തകങ്ങളും മറ്റും സൗജന്യമായി വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥ ഒന്നുമുതൽ അഞ്ചുവരെ ക്ലാസ്സുകളിലേക്കു വ്യാപിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നാണു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ എനിക്കു ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കുവാനുള്ളതു്.

അടുത്തതു് വസ്ത്രത്തിൻെറ കാര്യമാണു്. ഒന്നാം ക്ലാസ്സിലും മറ്റും പഠിക്കുന്ന കുട്ടികൾ ചിലപ്പോൾ വസ്ത്രം ഉടുക്കാതേയും മറ്റും പള്ളിക്കൂടത്തിൽ നിവർത്തികേടുകൊണ്ടു് പോകുന്ന പതിവുണ്ടു്. അവരെ പഠിപ്പിക്കാൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്നുമുണ്ടു്. പള്ളിക്കൂടത്തിൽ പോകാനാഗ്രഹിക്കുന്ന എല്ലാ കുട്ടികൾക്കും വസ്ത്രം വിതരണംചെയ്യുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിഞ്ഞു കാണാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു.

മറെറാന്നു് ആഹാരകാര്യമാണു്. തിരുവനന്തപുരം കോട്ടയം നാഗരുകോവിൽ മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന കുട്ടികൾക്കു് ഉച്ചക്കു് ഒരു നേരത്തെ ആഹാരം കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടാവാം. എന്നാൽ രാവിലെ ശകലം ആഹാരമെങ്കിലും കഴിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഉച്ചക്കുള്ള ആഹാരംകൊണ്ടു് യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവുമില്ല; എന്നല്ല ഇവിടത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപദ്ധതിതന്നെ വിജയകരമായി തീരുകയുമില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് രാവിലേയും, ഉച്ചക്കും, വൈകുന്നേരവും താഴ്ന്ന ക്ലാസ്സുകളിൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന യാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ലാത്ത കുട്ടികൾ ഏതു സമുദായത്തിൽ ഉള്ളവരായാലും ശരി ആഹാരം കൊടുക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിയേണ്ടതാണു്. ഈ ഫ്രീ കമ്പൽസറി പ്രൈമറി എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൻെറ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലും നടപ്പിലാക്കണമെന്നു ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും എല്ലാഭാഗത്തും പഠിക്കുന്ന, യാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ലാത്ത, കുട്ടികൾക്കു ഉച്ചഭക്ഷണം കൊടുക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഒട്ടും അമാന്തം കാണിക്കരുതെന്നും അതിലേക്കുള്ള തുക നീക്കിവയ്ക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഇവിടെയുള്ള യാതൊരു മെമ്പറന്മാരും അതിനെ എതിർക്കുകയില്ലെന്നും ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT : (*Commerce and Industry North*): Does not the member know that there is in existence a fund like that just now?

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MR. P. C. ADICHAN : ഉണ്ടെന്നേ എനിക്കറിയാം. പക്ഷെ, രാജ്യം ഒട്ടാകെയുള്ള വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്ക് ഉച്ചഭക്ഷണം കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഈ തുക പര്യാപ്തമല്ലെന്നാണ് എനിക്ക പറയുവാനുള്ളത്.

അടുത്തത് സ്ഥലത്തിന്റെ കാര്യമാണ്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസനില ഉയർന്നതോടുകൂടിത്തന്നെ സാധുജനങ്ങളുടെ സാമ്പത്തികനിലയും കൂടി ഉയർന്നപക്ഷം യുദ്ധാനന്തരപുനഃസംവിധാനപദ്ധതികൾ എന്തെല്ലാംതന്നെ വന്നാലും ഞങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം അതൊരു ഉയർച്ചയായി കരുതാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഇപ്പോഴും സ്വന്തമായി ഭൂമിയുള്ളവർ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എത്രയുണ്ടെന്നും, അന്ന്യായാളുകളുടെ ഭൂമിയിൽ താമസിക്കുന്നവരായി എത്രപേരുണ്ടെന്നും ഉള്ള ഒരു കണക്ക എടുക്കുന്നതിന് ഒരു കമ്മറ്റിമൂലം അറിയേണ്ടതാണ്. അന്ന്യാധീനകളുടെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ചുരുങ്ങിയത് ഫ ൦ കൊല്ലമെങ്കിലും താമസിക്കുന്നവരെ അവിടെ നിന്നും ഒട്ടി കൊടിക്കാതെ ആ സ്ഥലത്തിന്റെ ഒരംശം അവർക്കുതന്നെ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഒരു ചട്ടം ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽ നിന്നും ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH (*Meenachil cum Thodupuzha*) : കുറച്ചു കാലത്തേക്ക് അവരെ ആ സ്ഥലത്തു കയറ്റി കിടത്തിയതിനുള്ള ശിക്ഷയായിട്ടാണോ ആ സ്ഥലം കൂടി അവരക്ക കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു പറയുന്നത്.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : എന്നല്ല ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞത്. ആ സ്ഥലത്തു അവർ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷത്തിന്റെ പ്രതിഫലമായി ആ സ്ഥലത്തിന്റെ ഒരംശമെങ്കിലും കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന മാത്രമാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നത്.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): അവരുടെ വിയർപ്പുള്ളികൊണ്ട് ഉണ്ടാക്കിയതായ സ്വത്താണ് ആ ഭൂമിയിൽ ഉള്ളതെന്നു മെംബർ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ?

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : ആ സംഗതി ഒരു പക്ഷേ ബഹു: മെംബർ ചാഴിക്കാട്ടു ജോസഫ് മറന്നിട്ടായിരിക്കാം ഇപ്രകാരം ചോദിച്ചത് ?

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH : അവർ പൊഴിച്ച ഓരോ വിയർപ്പുള്ളിക്കും കൂലി കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമോ ?

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : അതിനാൽ സ്വന്തമായി ഭൂമിയില്ലാത്തവരുടെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികളെപ്പറ്റി കണക്കെടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിയെ നിയമിക്കുന്നതു നന്നായിരിക്കും. സർ, അങ്ങു യാതൊരു മുന്നറിവും കൊടു

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[Mr. P C. Adichan]

ക്കാതെ ഈ സാധുജനങ്ങൾ താമസിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ചെന്ന ഒരുനേ ഷണം നടത്തണമെന്ന എനിക്ക് ഒരു അപേക്ഷയുണ്ട്. ഒരു മുന്നറി വുംകൂടാതെയായിരിക്കണം അവിടുന്ന് ചെല്ലേണ്ടത്. അങ്ങിനെ ചെ ന്നാൽ അവിടെ താമസിക്കുന്നവരുടെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകളും എത്ര മാത്രമാണെന്ന് അവിടത്തേക്ക് നേരിട്ട് കണ്ട് ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടുവാൻ കഴി യും. ഈ പുനരുദ്ധാരണസംവിധാനപദ്ധതിയിൽ അവശ്യമുദ്യോദ്ധാ രണത്തിനു വേണ്ടി പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു തുക നീക്കിവയ്ക്കുവാൻ അങ്ങേയ്ക്ക് ഉടനെ തോന്നുകയും ചെയ്യും.

ഈ രാജ്യത്തു മരിക്കുന്ന കന്നുകാലികളുടെ തോലുകൾ ഈ രാജ്യ ത്തുതന്നെ ഉപയോഗിച്ച് ശരിപ്പെടുത്തി എടുത്താൽ അവയെ നമുക്കു തന്നെ പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്താൻ കഴിയും. ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ തുകലുകൾ അന്യരാജ്യ ങ്ങളിൽ അയച്ച് രസതന്ത്രപരമായ ചില മാറ്റങ്ങൾവരുത്തി ക്രോം പേ റ്റൻറ് ബാക്ക് മുതലായവ ഉണ്ടാക്കി മറുള്ളവർ വമ്പിച്ച ആദായം എടുത്തുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. അനേകായിരം രൂപായുടെ തുക അന്യരാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പോകുന്നുണ്ട്. കുടിൽവ്യവസായരീതിയിലും അല്ലാതെയും അടുത്ത നട പ്പിലാക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്ന യുദ്ധാനന്തരപുനസംവിധാനപദ്ധതിയിൽ തുകൽവ്യവസായശാലകൾ നിർമ്മാണത്തിനുമുള്ള തുക കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടു ത്തിയാൽ കൊള്ളാം.

സർ, രാജ്യത്തു ഇപ്പോൾ വസ്ത്രത്തിനു വലിയ ക്ഷാമമുണ്ട്. വസ്ത്രം നിർമ്മിക്കുന്ന കയ്യത്തിൽ ഈ രാജ്യം പുരോഗമിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണിരിക്കുന്ന തെന്ന് എനിക്കറിയാം. നമുക്ക് ആവശ്യമുള്ള പഞ്ഞിയും നൂലും പുറ ത്തുനിന്നുമാണ് വരുന്നത്. സർ, ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾ എല്ലാവരും മരിച്ചു, മരിച്ചില്ല എന്ന നിലയിൽ വളരെ വിഷമിച്ചും വളരെ ഭയപ്പെ ട്ടും ജീവിച്ച കാലത്ത് നമുക്ക് ആവശ്യമായ അരിയും നെല്ലും സംഭരി ച്ചുകൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ സാധിച്ച അങ്ങേയ്ക്ക് ഈ നാട്ടിലെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഒഴിച്ചുകൂടുവാൻ വയ്യാത്ത മറെറാരു അത്യാവശ്യ സാധനമായ വസ്ത്രത്തി ന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുള്ള പഞ്ഞിയും നൂലും നമുക്ക് ആവശ്യമുള്ളിടത്തോളം സംഭരിക്കുവാൻ കഴിയുമെന്നാണ് ഞങ്ങളുടെ വിശ്വാസം.

വ്യവസായത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച കൂടി എനിക്കു ഒരു വാക്ക് പറയണമെന്നുണ്ട്. കലം ചട്ടി മുതലായവ നിർമ്മിക്കുന്ന കുശവാളർ കുലം ഈ നാട്ടിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ആറന്മുള, ഏനാത്തു, മുതലായ സ്ഥല ങ്ങളിൽ ഈ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന പല ആളുകളും ഉണ്ടായി രുന്നു. ഒരഭിമാനംകൊണ്ടാണെന്ന് തോന്നുന്നു ഇപ്പോൾ നിന്നുപോയിരിക്കു ന്നതായിട്ടാണ് അറിയുന്നത്. അവരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം

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ഈ തൊഴിലിനെ വീണ്ടും ഉദ്ധരിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഇക്കാര്യത്തിലും ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

കൃഷിത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു കൂടി രണ്ടു വാക്ക് പറഞ്ഞു കൊള്ളട്ടെ. അതു ഞങ്ങളുടെ കാര്യമാണ്. ഇൻഡ്യയിലേയും പാശ്ചാത്യരാജ്യങ്ങളിലേയും തൊഴിലാളികളും മുതലാളികളും തമ്മിൽ ഇപ്പോഴെന്നല്ല എപ്പോഴും മത്സരഭാവം കൈക്കൊള്ളുന്നതായി നമുക്കറിയാം. അപ്രകാരമുള്ള ഒരു മാത്സരഭാവത്തിൽ ഇവിടത്തെ കൃഷിത്തൊഴിലാളികളും വസ്തു ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരും കഴിയരുതെന്നു തീർത്തുമായി ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്ന ഒരാളാണ് ഞാൻ. എന്നാൽ ആ തരത്തിലുള്ള മത്സരഭാവം അവർ തമ്മിൽ ഉണ്ടാകാതെയിരിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ കാർഷിക തൊഴിലാളികളെപ്പറ്റി വസ്തു ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർ കുറെക്കൂടി പരിഗണനയോടുകൂടി പെരുമാറേണ്ടതു് ആവശ്യമാണ്. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ഈ രാജ്യത്തിനു ഒരു മഹാ അനുഗ്രഹമായിത്തീരുകയും ചെയ്യും. ഇപ്പോൾ ഫാക്ടറികളിൽ ജോലിചെയ്യുന്ന തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കും മറ്റും അവർ ഇത്ര മണിക്കു പണി തുടങ്ങണം, ഇത്ര മണിക്ക് അതവസാനിപ്പിക്കണം, അവർക്ക് ഇത്ര പണം കൂലി കൊടുക്കണം എന്നും മറ്റും വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ കൃഷിത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള യാതൊരു വ്യവസ്ഥയുമില്ല. ഇക്കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റിയും ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു ചട്ടം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു് നന്നായിരിക്കും.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു ടെഡ് ബോർഡ് ബിൽ ഇവിടെ ആലോചനക്കു വരുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ? അതിൽ കാർഷികതൊഴിലാളികളെയും കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു് സമ്മതമാണോ?

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : ഈ ബിൽ ആലോചനക്കു വരുമ്പോൾ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കുള്ള അഭിപ്രായം പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളാം. പൊതുവേ പറഞ്ഞാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ അവശസമുദായക്കാരുടെ നിലയെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിൻറെ ഉദ്ദേശ്യത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് കേരള ഹിന്ദുമിഷ്യൻ, ഹിന്ദു മഹാസഭ, പ്രൊട്ടക്ടീവ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് ഇവയെല്ലാം ഉണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഈ അവശസമുദായക്കാരുടെ യഥാർത്ഥമായ നില ആർക്കും അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ. അറിവാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചിട്ടുമില്ല. അതിനാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ അവശസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ യഥാർത്ഥനിലയെ അറിഞ്ഞിട്ട്, അതിൻറെ പുരോഗതിക്കുതകുന്ന പദ്ധതികൾ കൂടെ സംവിധാനപദ്ധതിയിൽ ചേർക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിമൂലം ശരിയായ ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ട് തയ്യാറാക്കുവാൻ അങ്ങു വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ അവശ

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[Mr. P. C. Adichan]

സമുദായങ്ങളുടെ ഇന്നത്തെ നില ശരിയായി അന്വേഷിച്ച് റിപ്പോർട്ട ചെയ്യേണ്ടതിന്റെ അത്യാവശ്യത്തെ ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ടിയാണ് ഞാൻ ഇക്കാര്യം പറഞ്ഞത്.

സർ, ഞാൻ ആദ്യം പറഞ്ഞ ഒരു കാര്യമാണ് പിന്നീടും എനിക്ക് പറയുവാനുള്ളത്. ഈ നാട്ടിലെ സാധുജനങ്ങളും കൂടി ഒന്നായതിനു ശേഷം, അവർക്കു സാംസ്കാരികമായും, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരമായും, സാമ്പത്തികമായും അഭിവൃദ്ധി ഉണ്ടായതിനു ശേഷമെ ഈ രാജ്യത്തു ഉത്തരവാദിത്വഭരണം സ്ഥാപിക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയുള്ളൂ എന്ന് അങ്ങ് പറയുന്നതു ഞങ്ങളെ കുരുതിയും ഞങ്ങളുടെ-ക്ഷേമത്തെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചുമാണെന്നു ഞാൻ ആത്മാർത്ഥമായി വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

MR. P. K. KUNJU (*Ambalapuzha cum Shertala*): സർ, ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ നൂറു കോടിയിൽ ചില്വാനം രൂപ വരവും ഒരു കോടിയിൽ ചില്വാനം രൂപ ചെലവും ഫ കോടിയിൽ ചില്വാനം രൂപാ മിച്ചവും കാണുന്നു. ഈ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ചരിത്രത്തിൽ ഇത്ര ഭദ്രമായ ഒരു സാമ്പത്തിക നില ഉണ്ടാക്കാണിക്കാൻ അവസരം ഉണ്ടായതു ഇപ്പോൾ മാത്രമാണ്. ദോഷൈകദൃക്കുകൾ അല്പാത്ത അതുടേയും അഭിനന്ദനത്തിനും പ്രശംസയ്ക്കും പാത്രമായവിധത്തിൽ ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ് അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതും ഇപ്പോഴാണ്. ഇതു ഭരണമേധാവികൂടി ആയ ദിവാൻപ്രസിഡൻറു അവർകളുടെ കാര്യക്ഷമതയുടെ പ്രതിഫലവും അതിനു ആവശ്യമായി നാം കുന്ന മാർഗ്ഗദർശനത്തിന്റേയും, നിയന്ത്രണത്തിന്റേയും ഫലവും ആണെന്നുള്ളതു നിസ്തർക്കമാണ്. സാമാന്യജനങ്ങളുടെ മേൽ അനാവശ്യമായ നികുതികൾ പുതിയതായി ചുമത്താതെ ഇത്ര കൊഴുത്ത ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ് അവതരിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചതു അഭിനന്ദനാർഹം തന്നെയാണ്. ക്രമവൃദ്ധമായി ലഭിച്ചു വരുന്ന സൂക്ഷ്മമായി വിനിയോഗിച്ചതിന്റെ ഫലമായിട്ടാണ് ഇത്തരത്തിലുള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജറു അവതരിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു. ആദായനികുതിയിനത്തിൽ ഫ കോടി ഫുപ്പത്തു ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം അതിനു മുൻപുള്ള വരവിനെ താരതമ്യപ്പെടുത്തി നോക്കുമ്പോൾ അനിതരസാധാരണമായ വിധത്തിൽ കൂടുതലാണ്. ഈ തുക ഇവിടെ സാധുക്കളിൽ നിന്നും ഞെക്കിപ്പിഴിഞ്ഞുവരുന്ന നികുതിയല്ല. അതു അനുദിനം ആദായം ലഭിക്കുന്ന വാണിജ്യ വ്യവസായങ്ങളിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ആളുകളിൽ നിന്നും രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ പൊതു ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു വിനിയോഗിക്കാൻ വസൂൽചെയ്തു രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഭണ്ഡാഗാരത്തെ

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പോഷിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ഒരു നികുതിയാണ്. അതിൽ സാമാന്യജനങ്ങൾക്കു യാതൊരു സങ്കടത്തിനും വകയില്ല. ചിലവിനങ്ങളിൽ സാധാരണ വേലകൾക്കായി നീക്കിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന അഞ്ചുകോടി രൂപായിൽ, യുദ്ധാനന്തരമുള്ള പുനരുദ്ധാരണ പദ്ധതിക്കായി കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു ലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ രൂപാ ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ നാനാവിധത്തിലും ഐശ്വര്യതരമാക്കിത്തീർക്കുന്നതിലേക്കുള്ള പരിപാടികളെ ലക്ഷീകരിച്ചു വച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണെന്നു നിർദ്ദേശിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളു. ഈ ഇനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും നല്ലവണ്ണം കാണാൻ കഴിയും. ചില സ്നേഹിതന്മാർ ഇവിടെ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി യുദ്ധാനന്തരപുനരുദ്ധാരണ പദ്ധതിക്കുവേണ്ടി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുകയിൽ ഒന്നും തന്നെ രാജ്യക്ഷേമകരമായ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല എന്ന്. എന്നാൽ ഈ വക ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുക ഏതെങ്കിലും കാരണവശാൽ ചിലവാകാതെ കീഴ്പതിവു അനുസരിച്ചു മിച്ചംവരുന്ന പക്ഷം ആ തുക മുഴുവനും ആ ഉദ്ദേശ്യസാധ്യത്തിനായി ചിലവഴിക്കാൻതന്നെ തീരുമാനിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറ് അവർകൾ നൽകിയ താക്കീതും നമുക്ക് ഏറ്റവും ആശ്വാസകരവും സന്തോഷപ്രദവും ആണ്. യുദ്ധാനന്തര പുനഃസംവിധാനപദ്ധതിക്കായി കണക്കാക്കപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾ രാജ്യക്ഷേമകരമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ലാ എന്നു പറയുന്നതിൽ എത്ര പരമാർത്ഥം ഉണ്ടെന്ന് ഞാൻ ഒന്നു ചോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടേ. അടുത്ത രണ്ടു വർഷത്തിനുള്ളിൽ നമുക്കു ബമ്മാഅരി ലഭിയ്ക്കാൻ സാധ്യമല്ലെന്നു ബാംബെയിൽ ഇൻഡ്യൻ ചേംബർ ഓഫ് കാമേഴ്സിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം ചില പത്രങ്ങളിൽ കണ്ടു. ഇതിന്റെ ഭവിഷ്യൽഫലം നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ദീർഘദൃഷ്ടിതം ചെയ്തതിന്റെ ഫലമായാണ്; കായൽ റിക്ലമേഷൻ, പെരുഞ്ചാണി റിസർവായർസ്കീം ഇവയ്ക്കു രണ്ടിനുമായി ഈ വർഷം ലക്ഷം രൂപാ നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്ന് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു.

സർ, Campaign to grow more food ആഹാരസാധനങ്ങൾ കൂടുതലായി ഉൽപാദിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി ഇവിടെ യാതൊന്നും ചെയ്യുന്നില്ലാ എന്നു പറഞ്ഞുകേൾക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. കായൽ റിക്ലമേഷൻകൊണ്ടു ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു ഈ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഭക്ഷണാഭിവൃദ്ധി മാത്രമാണ്. പെരുഞ്ചാണി റിസർവായർ പദ്ധതിയുടെ ഉദ്ദേശവും മറ്റൊന്നുമല്ല. നാഞ്ചിനാട്ടിലെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ കൃഷിയ്ക്കു ഉപയുക്തമായ നിലയിൽ കാലാകാലങ്ങളിൽ വെള്ളം കിട്ടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ആ ആവശ്യത്തിനു ഉതകുന്നതരത്തിൽ വെള്ളം ലഭിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഒരു പദ്ധതിയാണു അതു്. വെള്ളം കിട്ടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് നേരിട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന നഷ്ടത്തിനും

[Mr. P. K. Kunju]

തൻമൂലം രാജ്യത്തിനുണ്ടാകുന്ന ഭക്ഷണക്ഷാമത്തിനും ഒരേ സമയത്തു് പരിഹാരം നേടാൻവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെൻറു ദീർഘദൃഷ്ടിയോടുകൂടി ഏർപ്പെട്ടത്തിയ ഒരു പദ്ധതി അല്ലേ ഇതെന്നു് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നു? ഭക്ഷ്യധാന്യ ദാരിദ്ര്യത്തിൻറെ കരാളരൂപം നമുക്കു പക്ഷേ കാണുവാൻ ഇട വരാഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടായിരിക്കണം ഇതു് അത്ര വലിയ അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു സ്കീം ആയി കാണുവാനും ഇയ്യുകയിലേയ്ക്കു വിനിയോഗിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതിൻറെ ഔചിത്യത്തെ മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാനും ചിലർക്കു് കഴിയാതെ പോയതു്. പട്ടിണികൊണ്ടു വളരെ അധികം ജനങ്ങൾ കഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടു് ക്ലേശക്ലേശമായി വഴിതോറും മരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ബംഗാളിൻറെ ദുർസ്ഥിതി നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിലെ ജനതയ്ക്കു അനുഭവിക്കാൻ ഇടവരാഞ്ഞതുതന്നെ. സർ, അങ്ങു് ദീർഘദൃഷ്ടിയോടുകൂടി യഥാവസരം യഥാർഹം ആഹാരവസ്ത്രം വളരെ സമർത്ഥമായി ആ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇടപെട്ടതുകൊണ്ടല്ലേ എന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നു. ബുദ്ധിപൂർവമായി ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രവർത്തിച്ചതു കൊണ്ടാണു് ബംഗാളിലെ ദുരവസ്ഥ നമുക്കു ഇവിടെ ഇല്ലാതെ പോയതു്.

സർ, കനാൽ ഇംപ്രൂവുമെൻറിലേക്കു നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മൂന്നു ലക്ഷം രൂപായും, കോസ്റ്റൽ നാവിഗേഷൻ ഇംപ്രൂവുമെൻറിനുവേണ്ടി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഏഴു ലക്ഷം രൂപായും, മെഡിക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു പരിഷ്കരിക്കുന്നതിനായി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അഞ്ചു ലക്ഷം രൂപയും വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ജനക്ഷേമത്തെ കരുതി മാത്രം ചെലവാക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടല്ലേ? തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൻറെ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലുമുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ആവശ്യം വരുന്ന സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ വേണ്ട ഔഷധവും വൈദ്യസഹായവും ഇല്ലാതെ പല അപകടങ്ങളും വിഷമിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഉത്തര തിരുവിതാംകൂറുകാരും, ദക്ഷിണ തിരുവിതാംകൂറുകാരും മദ്ധ്യ തിരുവിതാംകൂറുകാരും വൈദ്യസഹായത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഇപ്പോൾ തിരുവനന്തപുരം പട്ടണത്തെ അഭയം പ്രാപിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതായി നാം കാണുന്നു. അതിനു പരിഹാരമായി രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലുമുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കെല്ലാവർക്കും വൈദ്യസഹായം ലഭിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടി തിരുവനന്തപുരം, ആലപ്പുഴ, കോട്ടയം എന്നീ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഒന്നാംഗ്രേഡിലുള്ള ഓരോ ആശുപത്രിയും അവയ്ക്കു ആവശ്യമായ ഉപകരണങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു വേണ്ടി അഞ്ചു ലക്ഷം രൂപാ മാറ്റിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയല്ലേ? കനാൽ ഇംപ്രൂവുമെൻറിലേക്കു മാറ്റിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന തുക വാസ്തവത്തിൽ കൂടിൽ വ്യവസായത്തിൻറെയും, വാണിജ്യ വ്യവസായത്തിൻറെയും അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുവേണ്ടി മാത്രമാണു്. കാ

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രണം, നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൻറെ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലുണ്ടാകുന്ന സാമഗ്രികളും സംസ്കൃതസാധനങ്ങളും അതാതവസരങ്ങളിൽ ആവശ്യമുള്ളവർക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിലേക്കായി ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു മിക്ക അവസരങ്ങളിലും വെള്ളത്തിൻറെ ക്ഷാമംകൊണ്ടു വളരെത്തുകൽ കഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടു പോകുന്നതിൽ സാധിക്കാതെ വന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനാൽ വ്യവസായ വാണിജ്യാദികളിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർക്കും, കാർഷിക വ്യാപാരത്തിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർക്കും പല വിഷമങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുമുണ്ട്. ആ വിഷമങ്ങൾ കഴിയുന്നിടത്തോളം പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഈ തുക നീക്കിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. കോസ്റ്റൽ ഇംപ്രൂവുമെൻറിനുവേണ്ടി മാറ്റിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന തുകയും, മറ്റൊരുവിധത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ക്ഷേമത്തെയും, അഭിവൃദ്ധിയേയും കരുതിയാണെന്ന് കാണാൻ കഴിയും. വിഴിഞ്ഞത്ത് ഒരു പോർട്ട് ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ അഞ്ചു ലക്ഷം രൂപാ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അത്, സാധിച്ചുവരികയാണെങ്കിൽ തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂർക്കാർക്ക് ഒരു വലിയ വാണിജ്യകേന്ദ്രം ലഭിക്കുന്നതായിരിക്കും. കൊച്ചി കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ വിഴിഞ്ഞം ഒരു നല്ല വാണിജ്യകേന്ദ്രമായിത്തീരും. ഇങ്ങനെ നോക്കുമ്പോൾ രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ പൊതുവേയുള്ള അഭിവൃദ്ധിയുടെ നിദാനങ്ങളായ ഇനങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടിയാണ് യുവാനന്തരപുനഃസംവിധാനപദ്ധതി എന്ന പേരിൽ നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുക മുഴുവനും എന്ന് പറയുവാൻ കഴിയും.

ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ അലപ്പുഴ കടൽപാലത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു വാക്ക് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുണ്ട്. സാമാനങ്ങൾ കപ്പലിലേയ്ക്കു കയറ്റുന്നതിനും ഇറക്കുന്നതിനും യാതൊരു സൗകര്യവുമില്ലാത്തവിധം ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ പാലം ജീർണ്ണിച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്. ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി യൂറോപ്യൻ സ്റ്റീമർ ഏജൻറന്മാരും മറ്റുള്ളവരും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അടിക്കടി ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണ് എൻറെ അറിവ്. ആ പാലത്തിൻറെ അറ്റകുറ്റപണികൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് എത്രയും വേഗം നടത്തിയില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ അടുത്ത ഗഡുവിൽതന്നെ അതുകൊണ്ടുള്ള വൈഷമ്യങ്ങൾ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിന് എളുപ്പമുണ്ട്. അടുത്ത ഗഡുവിൽ അനവധി കപ്പലുകൾ അലപ്പുഴ വരുന്നതിന് ഇടയുണ്ട്. അപ്പോൾ ഈ പാലത്തിൻറെ അസൌകര്യംകൊണ്ട് സാമാനങ്ങൾ കയറ്റുന്നതിനും ഇറക്കുന്നതിനും വളരെ വൈഷമ്യങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിക്കേണ്ടിവരും. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വേണ്ടത ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിച്ചു കാണുവാൻ ഞാൻ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു.

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[Mr. P. K. Kunju].

സർ, മറെറാരു കാര്യംകൂടി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുണ്ട്. കഴിഞ്ഞ പ്രാവശ്യവും ഞാൻ ആ കാര്യം ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. കൊച്ചിയും തിരുവിതാംകൂറുമായി ബന്ധിക്കുന്ന അരൂർമുക്കത്തു കൊച്ചിയിൽ നിന്നും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേയ്ക്കും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നിന്നും കൊച്ചിയിലേയ്ക്കും പോകുന്ന യാത്രക്കാർക്കു വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ നേരിടുന്ന ഒരു വിഷയം ചങ്ങാടമാണ് ഇട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അവിടെ ഒരു പാലം ഉണ്ടാക്കിയാൽ ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യം വർദ്ധിക്കുകയും ജനങ്ങളുടെ സഞ്ചാരത്തിനും കച്ചവടത്തിന്റെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയ്ക്കും തൽമൂലം വളരെ സൌകര്യം കിട്ടുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതാണ്. ഈ സംഗതിയിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിയുമെന്ന് വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

യുദ്ധാനന്തരപുനഃസംവിധാനപദ്ധതിക്കായി ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുകയിൽനിന്നു ഇതിലേക്കു വേണ്ടതു ചെലവാക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അപേക്ഷ. നാഷണൽ ഫ്രെവേസ്റ്റീം നടപ്പിൽ വരുമ്പോൾ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെയും, കൊച്ചീഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെയും പരസ്പരധാരണയേയും സഹകരണത്തേയും സാധിച്ചുകൊള്ളാമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു പ്രതീക്ഷയാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുള്ളതെങ്കിൽ അങ്ങനെ സാധിച്ചാലും മതിയാകുന്നതാണ്. ആലപ്പുഴനിന്നും മറെറാരു പ്രധാനപട്ടണമായ കോട്ടയത്തേക്ക് ഒരു റോഡ് ആവശ്യമാണെന്നു പലരും പല പ്പോഴും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. ഇതു് വാണിജ്യവ്യവസായാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കും. ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യത്തിനും ആവശ്യമാണ്. ഈ പദ്ധതി യുദ്ധാനന്തര പുനഃസംവിധാനപദ്ധതിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തി നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

സർ, ഈ ബഡ്ജറിൽ ആക്കും നന്ദിയോടുകൂടിയല്ലാതെ സ്മരിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കാത്ത ഒരു പ്രധാന കാര്യം, ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ എല്ലാ ജനങ്ങൾക്കും ഒന്നുപോലെ പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുന്ന പുതിയ ലാൻറ്റവന്യൂപോളിസിയാണ്. കർഷകരുടെ നികുതിഭാരം കുറക്കുന്നതിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഇവിടെത്തന്നെ പലരും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ ഈ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി പത്രങ്ങളിലും, പ്ലാറ്റുഫാറങ്ങളിലും മുറവിളി തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടു് ഇന്നും ഇന്നലെയും അല്ല. എത്രയോ കൊല്ലങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പുതന്നെ കരം ഇളവു ചെയ്യണമെന്നുള്ള നിവേദനങ്ങൾ നിയമസഭയിലും, അതിനു മുമ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്ന പ്രജാസഭയിലും പലരും അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി എനിക്കറിയാം. കർഷകരുടെ നികുതിഭാരം കുറക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യവും, ഇന്നത്തെ യുദ്ധപരിതസ്ഥിതി ഉണ്ടായതിനു മുമ്പു് കർഷകർ അനുഭവിച്ചുവന്ന സ്ഥിതിയും, അവരുടെ വസ്തുക്കൾ ലേലത്തിൽ

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പോകുന്നതിനിടയാക്കിയ നഷ്ടസ്ഥിതിയും നല്ലവണ്ണം മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്ന വർക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഇപ്പോൾ എടുത്തിരിക്കുന്ന ലാൻറ് പാളിസി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു എത്രമാത്രം ഉപകാരപ്രദമായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതു് ബോദ്ധ്യമാകുന്നതാണ്. രൂ ലക്ഷം രൂപയോളം ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഭണ്ഡാരത്തിലേക്കു സ്ഥിരമായി വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ഭൂനികുതി മേലാൽ ഒരിക്കലും ഉയർത്തുവാൻ വിചാരിക്കാതെ ൨ ലക്ഷം രൂപയാക്കി കുറയ്ക്കുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് തീരുമാനിച്ചതു വളരെ അഭിനന്ദനീയമായിരിക്കുന്നു. കൃഷി ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ സാമാന്യക്കാരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഒരു വലിയ അനുഗ്രഹമാണ്. ഇതു ഒരു കർഷകരാജ്യമാണു. രണ്ടായിരമോ, അതിൽ കൂടുതലോ ഏക്കർ ഭൂമി കൈവശം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥനെയും, തുച്ഛമായ ഭൂമി കൈവശം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു പാവപ്പെട്ടവനേയും താരതമ്യന ഇണപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന ഒരു സൗജന്യമാണിതു്. അനന്തരം പുതുവലിനു നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയനുസരിച്ചു ഒരു പണം കരം കൊടുക്കണം. ഒരേക്കർ ഭൂമിക്കു് ൨ ൦ രൂപാവരെ തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ചിലയിടങ്ങളിൽ നികുതിയുണ്ടു്. അതേ അവസരത്തിൽ ഒരേക്കർ ഭൂമിക്കു ൪ ചക്രം വരെ കരവും ചിലഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ ഉണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ പുതിയ വ്യവസ്ഥയനുസരിച്ചു് അതേകാൽ പണം കൊടുത്താൽ മതി. പലരീതിയിൽപെട്ട അളുകാംക്ഷം പ്രയോജനകരമായ ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയാണിതു്. ബംഗാളിൽ കരം ഇളവിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള ആലോചന വന്നപ്പോൾ പരേതനായ ആർ. സി. ഡട്ട്, ഭൂനികുതി ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഏറ്റവും സ്ഥിരവും, സ്ഥായിയും ആയ ഒരു വരവാണെന്നും. അതു മാറുകയോ, കുറയ്ക്കുകയോ ചെയ്യുന്നതു രാജ്യത്തെ ഭണ്ഡാരത്തെ ശോഷിപ്പിക്കുകയും, അതിൻറ പുരോഗതിയെ ശാശ്വതമായി നശിപ്പിക്കുകയുമാണു ചെയ്യുന്നതെന്നും പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ സ്ഥായിയായ നിലനിൽപ്പിനെ പരിഗണിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഈ അഭിപ്രായം ശരിയാണ്. നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെൻറാകട്ടെ, ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഒരു ഉറച്ച നയം തന്നെ ജനാഭിലാഷത്തെ പരിഗണിച്ചു കൈക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. എന്നാൽ കാർഷികാദായനികുതി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചും, അതു ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള വൈഷമ്യത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചും ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടായ പ്രസ്താവനകളിൽ കുറെയൊക്കെ പരമാർത്ഥമുണ്ടു്. ഏകദേശം നാല്പതിനായിരത്തോളം പട്ടാദാരന്മാർ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഉണ്ടു്. ഇവരെല്ലാവരും കാർഷികാദായനികുതി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവരികയില്ല. അവരിൽ ഏറിയ ഭാഗവും സാധുക്കളും വിദ്യാരഹിതരുമാണു്. അവരുടെ

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ഞ്ഞയവ്യയകണക്കു എഴുതിസൂക്ഷിക്കാനുള്ള കഴിവും അവക്കില്ല. കൃഷി കൊണ്ടു മാത്രം ഉപജീവിക്കുന്ന ഒരു കുടുംബം, അഞ്ചു ഏക്കറിൽ കുറഞ്ഞു പിന്തിർണ്ണമുള്ള ഭൂമി കൈവശം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥൻ കാർഷികാദായനികുതി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതില്ല എന്നു നിരുപാധികമായി ഗവണ്മെൻറ് തീരുമാനിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം, അതു ഇവിടത്തെ പാവപ്പെട്ട കർഷകക്ക് ഒരു വലിയ അനുഗ്രമായിരിക്കും. ഒ ഏക്കർ ഭൂമി ഒരു കുടുംബത്തിൻറെ—ഒരു കർഷകൻറെ പരിമിതമായ ജീവിതാവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കേ കാണുകയുള്ളു. കീഴ്സിൽബന്ധികം ആവശ്യമില്ലാതെ പാവപ്പെട്ടകർഷകരെ പോഷണം ചെയ്യുകയും, ഉപദ്രവിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനും ഇതു സാധകമാണ്.

MR. K. T. MICHAEL: ഒരേക്കർ ഭൂമിയിൽ നിന്നും ഒരു കർഷകൻ എന്താദായം കിട്ടുമെന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. P. K. KUNJU : എനിക്കു തീർച്ചയില്ല. മദ്ധ്യതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒരേക്കർ ഭൂമിയിൽനിന്നും, ൫൦൦ രൂപാമുതൽ, ൧൦൦൦ രൂപാവരെ ആദായം ഇപ്പോൾ കിട്ടും. എസ്റ്റേറുകളിൽ എന്താദായം കിട്ടുമെന്നു എനിക്കറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR: ഏതു കൃഷി ചെയ്താണു ഇത്രയും ആദായം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു?

MR. P. K. KUNJU : പലതരത്തിലുള്ള കൃഷി ചെയ്യും, ആദായം ഉണ്ടാക്കാം. നെല്ലു, തെങ്ങു, വാഴ, കുപ്പ, കുരുമുളകു ഇങ്ങനെ പല കൃഷിയും ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തു ഒരേകാലത്തു ചെയ്തു ആദായം ഉണ്ടാക്കാം.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : ഇത്രയും ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നതു ഏതു കൃഷിയിൽനിന്നാണെന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. P. K. KUNJU : ഭൂമിയിലുള്ള വിവിധകൃഷിയിൽനിന്നും കിട്ടും.

സർ, ഒരു കാര്യം കൂടി പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. ഉത്തരവാദഭരണത്തിൻറെ ശബ്ദം കേട്ടതുടങ്ങിയതു ഇന്നും ഇന്നലെയും അല്ല. ഇതു ഇവിടെ മാത്രം കേൾക്കുന്നതുമല്ല. സമീപകാലത്തെങ്ങും ഇക്കാര്യം ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ആലോചനയ്ക്കും തീരുമാനത്തിനും വിധേയമാകുകയില്ലെന്നു ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറവർകളും തന്നെ ഖണ്ഡിതമായി പ്രസ്താവിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു.

സർ, ദൈവസൃഷ്ടികളായ മനുഷ്യരെ, സമസൃഷ്ടങ്ങൾക്കൊപ്പം പരിഗണിച്ചു, അവരുടെ ആത്മരക്ഷയ്ക്കായി ഈശ്വരപൂജ നടത്തുവാൻ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യവും, അവകാശവും, അവസരവും നൽകിയ അങ്ങു, സാക്ഷ

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രതത്തിനു മുമ്പിട്ടനിൽക്കുന്ന രാജ്യം ഇനിയും ഉപ്പിപ്പെടാതെ സാക്ഷരതയത്തിനു സാർവത്രികമായ വ്യാപകത്വം നൽകുന്നതിനായി പ്രാഥമിക നിർബന്ധിതവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന അങ്ങു് ഇവിടത്തെ സാമ്പത്തികനില താരതമ്യേന ഉയർത്തി ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ, ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ മുന്നാം സ്ഥാനത്തേയ്ക്കുയർത്തുന്ന ഒരു ബഡ്ജറു് രൂപവൽക്കരിക്കുന്നതിനു സാധിച്ച അങ്ങു്, നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന വിദ്യാഭ്യാസരീതി തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മയെ സഹായിക്കുവാൻ പര്യാപ്തമാണെന്നു കണ്ടു തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മപ്രശ്നം ഭാവിതലമുറകളെ ബാധിക്കാതിരിക്കാൻ, സമൂചിതവും സഫലവുമായ ഒരു പരിവർത്തനം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസരീതിയിൽ വരുത്തുന്നതിനു ആവശ്യമായ സാങ്കേതികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു പ്രാധ്യാനം നൽകുന്ന ഒരു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരിഷ്കാരനടപടി സ്വീകരിച്ച അതിലേക്കാവശ്യമായ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരിഷ്കരണക്കമ്മിറ്റി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയ അങ്ങു്, അറിഞ്ഞും അറിയാതേയും ചെയ്യപോരുന്ന തെറ്റുകളുടെ പ്രായശ്ചിത്തമായി, നിലവിലിരുന്ന വധശിക്ഷ നിറുത്തി ഇതരരാജ്യങ്ങൾക്കു് വിശിഷ്യ ഈ അടുത്തകാലത്തു മൈസൂരിനു മാർഗ്ഗദർശനം നൽകിയ അങ്ങു്, കർഷകർക്കു് സ്ഥിരമായ ആശ്വാസം നൽകത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഭൂനികുതിഭാരം സധീരം കുറവുചെയ്ത അങ്ങു്, ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ വ്യാവസായികമായും, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരമായും, വാണിജ്യപരമായും, സാമ്പത്തികമായും ആവശ്യമുള്ള എല്ലാ സാദ്ധ്യതകളും കൈവരുത്തിതന്ന അങ്ങു് പുറംരാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ ശ്രദ്ധ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേയ്ക്കാകർഷിക്കത്തക്ക മഹത്തമതിയും പ്രശസ്തിയും ആർജ്ജിച്ച അങ്ങു്, ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ, ഇതര രാജ്യങ്ങളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു് ഏറ്റവും പ്രശസ്തമായ നിലയിൽ ഉയത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ അങ്ങു്, ജനാഭിപ്രായത്തെ പരിഗണിച്ചു് അനുദിനം പുരോഗമിക്കുന്ന ലോകഗതിയെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കി— ഒരു കായ്യംകൂടി ചെയ്യുതീർക്കുന്നതിനു അവശേഷിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നാണു് എന്റെ വിനീതമായ അഭിപ്രായം അതായതു സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി... ...

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR : സർ, മെമ്പർ ഇപ്പോൾ 10 മിനിട്ടിൽ കൂടുതൽ സംസാരിച്ചു.

MR. P. K. KUNJU : സർ എനിക്കു 5 മിനിട്ടുകൂടി തരണം.

പ്രൊഫസർബോധം അനുദിനം വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്ന ഒരു ജനസഞ്ചയമാണു് നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമേനിയുടെ പ്രജാലക്ഷങ്ങൾ. ഭരണകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ കൂടുതൽ കൂടുതൽ പങ്കെടുക്കുന്നതിനു അവകാശപ്പെട്ടന്ന രാഷ്ട്രീയമനോഭാവം വളത്തുകയും പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്ക

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കയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള കമ്മപരിപാടിയാണു ഇനി ഇവിടെ അവശേഷിക്കുന്നതു്. അതിന്റെ സ്വഭാവവും രൂപവും എങ്ങിനെയിരിക്കണമെന്നു നിർദ്ദേശിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം ഇപ്പോൾ ഇല്ലെന്നു് എനിക്കറിയാം. അതുമാത്രമല്ല, മുൻനിറുത്തി, അങ്ങയുടെ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിൽ, അങ്ങയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ, മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ അധികാരസീമയെ യാതൊരു വിധത്തിലും ലംഘിക്കാതെ അങ്ങയുടെ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിൽ നിർദ്ദോഷമാംവണ്ണം ഭരണകാര്യത്തിൽ ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾ കൂടി പങ്കു ണ്ടായിരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഇന്ത്യയിലെ മറ്റു നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ കണ്ണുതുറപ്പിക്കുന്നതും മാതൃകയായി അനുകരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു പ്രാപ്തവുമായ ഏതെങ്കിലും തരത്തിലുള്ള ഒരു ഭരണപരിഷ്കാരം കൂടി ഇവിടെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിത്തരണമെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു് അവസാനമായി അപേക്ഷിക്കാനുള്ളതു്. ഇതു അങ്ങയുടെ പ്രവർത്തനസമർത്ഥതയും ബുദ്ധിസാമർത്ഥ്യവും ദീർഘദൃഷ്ടിക്കും വിധേയമായ ഒരു വലിയ കാര്യമാണു്.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT: Sir, as in last year this year also the Financial Secretary to Government deserves our warm congratulations upon the very excellent and lucid budget he has been able to present before this House for its adoption for the year 1121. As you rightly indicated, Sir, some time back the figures have actually exceeded Rs. 6 crores, and after meeting the proposed expenditure mentioned in the Budget, there will be at the end of the next financial year a surplus of Rs. 123 lakhs at the disposal of Government and with the other amounts already in hand added to that it will make a total of Rs. 7 crores and odd which could be easily utilised for the purpose of nation—building scheme contemplated by the Government to be undertaken during the period of Post-war Reconstruction. It is indeed very gratifying to note that the financial position of the State has been gradually but steadily improving for the past few years. As a matter of fact, when you took the reins of the administration of the State in your hands, in that particular year, the income was only Rs. 240 lakhs whereas today it is nearly 3 times that figure. That is undoubtedly due to your wise lead and able guidance.

Sir, the remarkable increase in the revenues of the State is partly due to war conditions and partly to the Agricultural and Industrial advancement of the country, and I am sure that with the new schemes contemplated by the Government to be undertaken during the Post-war Reconstruction period, there is every possibility of the income being increased rather than decreased. I am sure there is absolutely no justification whatsoever for any kind of apprehension that immediately the war is over there is going to be a serious fall in the revenues of the State. In this connection, Sir, in regard to the Industrial policy of the Government, some of the honourable members expressed the opinion in the course of the discussion *viz.*, that the schemes now con-

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templated by the Government were going to be an utter failure and they also objected to foreign capital being utilised for such schemes against the interests of Travancoreans. I, Sir, being a businessman, can claim to speak something on commerce and Industry and having gone through all the schemes contemplated by the Government, I have no hesitation in saying that those schemes, instead of being an utter failure, are on the other hand going to bring most productive results.

With regard to outside capital also, I would remind honourable members to what you have rightly said yesterday. It is undoubtedly a very disgraceful position for the people of Travancore to have contributed in so small a measure towards the schemes which are contemplated for the advancement of the country, and when the necessary capital was not forthcoming from the country, there was no other alternative to the Government but to accept outside capital for those purposes. It is our own fault, Sir, and there is no justification to blame the Government for the fault of others.

Now, Sir, I come to the subject matter of my speech. On the expenditure side I find that a sum of Rs. 75 lakhs has been set apart for the purpose of spending in the next year itself on some of the works relating to the Post-war Reconstruction period. Among those works I find that a sum of Rs. 7 lakhs has been set apart for the purpose of Coastal Navigation and improvements to ports. Of course, so far as Coastal Navigation is concerned, the Government have rightly moved in the matter by allowing the floatation of a company. the Government themselves agreeing to take more than 30 per cent. shares. I understand that you have also agreed to be the Chairman of the Board of Directors of that company.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have agreed to be the Chairman for one year and only for the period during which the negotiations with the Government of India and the Government of Great Britain will take place.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT: Undoubtedly the company will be very much benefited by your valuable advice and suggestions with regard to the future development of shipping industry and Coastal traffic. In this connection it is absolutely necessary that the major ports of Travancore are considerably improved and thoroughly maintained. So far as the port of Alleppey is concerned, I would like to make a few observations. It is an admitted fact that Alleppey is one of the most important commercial ports in Travancore. Before the war, almost every day, one or two steamers used to call at that port from Indian as well as foreign ports. A very large quantity of export cargo used to be shipped from that port to various places in India and abroad. Similarly, a very large quantity of import cargo intended for the whole of Travancore was being landed there. These shipping activities of the port were responsible to a very large extent to provide employment for thousands of people including labourers and boatmen. But unfortunately, immediately after the outbreak of the war, the entire shipping activities of the port were completely stopped by the Naval authorities in view of the risk and danger then existing in the Indian waters

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especially in the east coast. Therefore, the result was that the entire shipping operations of Alleppay port were completely diverted to Cochin where there is a first-class harbour. But, now, Sir, when the atmosphere is considerably clear and the risk and danger are also greatly minimised, I think, and hope that after the termination of the monsoon period and with the setting in of fair weather, there is every possibility of steamer movements being restored.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Not only so, but Government are fully aware of the bad condition of the pier at the present moment and they are immediately taking up the question of improving the pier, so that after the monsoon, ships might have the facility of access to the port.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT: Thank you very much, Sir. I need not go on that matter further.

There is another point which I would like to bring to the notice of the Government. That is in regard to the difficulties and hardship caused to the travelling public in the absence of the bridge at Arurmukkam. I fully realise that it is not possible for the Government under the present circumstances to construct a bridge there immediately or in the near future. But I would like to bring to the notice of the Government an alternative proposal which, if accepted by the Government, would undoubtedly relieve the present inconvenience and hardship and even the delay to a large extent. I would suggest, Sir, that the Government should be pleased to order immediately the construction of one or two powerful motor tugs and make them available.....

PRESIDENT: Order. Order, In the course of what may be called the general reconstruction programme, a certain number of motor trucks will be ordered both for canal traffic and for such uses as the honourable member is referring to. I remember what he told me in person not long ago and the matter will be borne in mind.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT: Thank you, Sir. I leave that point also.

Then, with regard to land tax, I should like to say a few words. With regard the present change in the land tax, I strongly and entirely support the Government. The existing practice was obtaining for the last 40 years and according to that system, there was absolutely no uniformity in the matter of assessment. On the other hand, people were indiscriminately assessed on lands at different places on a different basis. Now, the proposed change undoubtedly will equalise the burden of taxation on a more equitable basis and I think hereafter a person who gets a large income out of his land and who can afford to pay the Government, will only be called upon to pay and the poor man who does not get any income out of his land and not in a position to pay, will be very much relieved. Therefore, this is a very welcome change and I think the whole country will appreciate the good intentions of the Government.

I then come to the Excess Profits Tax. Now that the war is over in Europe and the war in the East is going to end very shortly undoubtedly in favour of the Allies, there is no justification, I think

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Sir, for retaining that tax. It can be removed, now, because it is only a war measure which was intended to check inflation of currency etc. Therefore, I hope the Government will also consider this question favourably.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : Why should they grudge this when they are reaping great profits ?

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT : It is not a question of grudging. If at all it is not possible till the Japanese war is also over I hope the Government will at least give us some relief from the retrospective effect of the act by making it only Prospective, in view of the very strong representations made to the Government by almost all the commercial interests in Travancore.

So far as the marketing of cardamom is concerned, I fully agree with the Government on the measures they have adopted. As a result of it, the collection storage and the marketing of cardamom, in future, will be in Travancore, because it happens to be the very important centre for cardamom cultivation. I request the Government to adopt similar measures in the case of other articles also which are produced mainly in Travancore such as pepper and cocoanut oil. So far as cocoanut oil is concerned.....

PRESIDENT : Order, Order. The difficulty in regard to that matter is this. In regard to cardamom, we hold practically a monopoly position. With regard to pepper our position is not equally good. With regard to cocoanut oil, honourable member may realise that it is only the war which has kept Ceylon somewhat in the background, and the honourable members will also realise that it was mainly the Bombay merchants who deliberately preferred Ceylon coconut oil to the Travancore cocoanut oil. That led to the difficulty of the Travancore cocoanut oil producers just before the war.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT : Thank you, Sir. But I wanted that some special safeguard should be made even after the war for our products in order that we may be able to stand competition from out side.

Before I conclude, Sir, I think I will be failing in my duty if I do not speak a few words on the recent appointments made by Government. During the last meeting, when the report of the Public Service Commissioner was being discussed, in the course of the debate, some of the Honourable Members criticised the policy of the Government by saying that fair and proper representation was not given to the minority communities, in the higher appointments. But the recent appointments have conclusively proved the good intentions of the Government in the matter. The appointment of the new Public Service Commissioner is itself an evidence if evidence is needed. Sir, with regard to the appointment of a Muslim as a Division Peishkar, it has also proved conclusively the intentions of Government towards the minority communities so far as the higher appointments are concerned. On behalf of the Muslim Community I have pleasure in expressing our

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deep sense of gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja and we are extremely grateful to the Government also and to you specially as the Head of the Administration for that appointment.

The appointment of a Muslim also as the Division Peishkar is another positive proof of the fair minded and just policy of the Government so far as high appointments are concerned. Now we can claim to have 2 Muslims holding high and enviable positions in the Government—one being the Judge of the District and the other being the Peishkar of the District. We hope, Sir, that we will be able to see in the course of time in various other Departments also Muslims being appointed.....

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : There are 2 Judges from the Muslim Community.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT : Thank you; for the information.

PRESIDENT : The Honourable Member will go on.

MR. A. R. SULAIMAN SAIT : As a Muslim I on behalf of my community express our deep sense of gratitude to His Gracious Highness the Maharaja for that appointment. We are also extremely grateful to the Government and to you sir specially as the Head of the Administration for that. I have done Sir.

MR. V. SRIDHARAN PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavancode*) : I wish to bring to your notice that last year in the Budget discussion no member from South Travancore was allowed to speak. At least this year I request you to bear in mind that some of us may be given a chance to speak.

PRESIDENT : The speeches are allowed on certain considerations. Firstly a certain number of persons are entitled to speak because they are leaders of various parties. I am making this perfectly clear so that there may be no misapprehensions in the matter. Leaders of constituted parties and the Deputy President are allowed to speak first. Therefore it was that I called upon the Deputy President, Mr. M. R. Ramakrishna Pillai, Mr T. P. Velayudhan Pillai and Mr. Mathew. Then various communities have to be allowed to have their say. If it is felt that persons from South Travancore have not had a chance that matter will also be noted. But honourable members will realise that it is not in a haphazard way that persons are being called upon to speak.

MR. K. A. MOHAMED : But it happened that last time also we had no chance and those who got the chance last time get chance this time also.

PRESIDENT : If any honourable member wants to speak this year he may give his name now.

MR. M. K. MOHAMED : We have already given our names.

PRESIDENT : That is practically all the names. I do not think there is anybody who has not given his name. So it does not lead us anywhere. What I propose to do is this. Between now (1·25) and 2 o'

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clock Mr. Bhaskar, Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai and Mr. Sankaranarayanan Tampi will speak. Afterwards I will select people who have not had a chance last year to speak and in the afternoon I will give as many of them as possible a chance to speak.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Yesterday I have given a list of persons who have not had the chance to speak last time.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I would like to know whether there is not a convention in this House to give a chance to new members.

PRESIDENT: Not only is there a convention, but it is going to be carried out. The honourable member asked me in person yesterday for a chance to speak. I told him that I would give him. It is wholely unnecessary for the member to have started the question of convention.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: But the promise has not been carried out.

PRESIDENT: I take it that till half past four there is time to speak. I am surprised that the honourable member should have made this reference now.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR: Sir, I should, at the very outset congratulate the Financial Secretary for having presented a very clear account of the financial position of the State with special reference to the feature. It is really gratifying to note that our cash position is extremely safe and we shall not be called upon to raise any fresh loans in the market to finance to various nation building programmes we have adumbrated.

As it is anticipated in the speech of the Financial Secretary, the revenues of the State are likely to be more buoyant than they were during the current year and are likely to soar up to unattained heights. Though the increase in revenue anticipated is evenly distributed among all the revenue items it is marked by considerable under taxes on Income. The budgeted estimate of revenue under tax on Income for 1121 is 120 lakhs whereas the actual revenue realised under that head five years back, in 1116 was only a little over 15 lakhs. In 1117 it rose to 19·45 in 1118 32·01 in 1119 86·85 and the revised estimate in 1120 is 112·50 lakhs, 6 lakhs in excess of the budget estimate for the year. The increase of revenue under this head is explained in the budget memorandum as follows. "The improvement under tax on Income in 1117, 1118 and 1119 is due to the peculiar favourable conditions created by the war for businessmen to earn large profits from trade and industry and agriculture also. Sir, I do not propose to speak anything against the introduction of agricultural income-tax, the assessment on agricultural income of over Rs. 2,000 a year. The land tax must go. It should be nominal. I suggest 2 cash per cent. instead of 4.

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[Mr. A. K. Bhaskar.]

Now, Sir, I come to the excess profit tax. A revenue of Rs. 24·50 lakhs is budgeted for 1121. Excess profiit tax is derived as the Financial Secretary points out mainly from war industry and it is right and proper that a proportion of this profit should go to the public exchequor. I welcomed the introduction of this Excess Profit Tax during the last years budget discussion. But there is another aspect of the question namely the development of the trade and industry in the country. Our situation in this respect is entirely different from that of the industrially and economically advanced countries. Industry and commerce in this State, or for the matter of that in this entire sub-continent is still in a nascent condition and if it gets an impetus through an accidental circumstance that it all to be welcomed. From this point of view I should urge that we should be more considerate in the matter of this taxation.

Apart from the philosophy of introducing a new tax with retrospective effect. I should point out, Sir, that many enterprising individuals, partnership corporations who are suddenly called upon to pay the new tax accumulated from the year 1942 are on the brink of ruin. Sir, I speak this from my personal knowledge. If this is insisted upon as the Government appear to be bent upon doing it it may result in the ruination of many an enterprising sons of the soil. Sir, your speech addressed to the joint session of the legislature was one full of hope. You had said : "As regards cocoanuts and coir products the United States and Europe would be a certain market for the State for a long time because they are very essential for the rehabilitation of countries affected by the war." These are indeed words of hope. But if the indigenous industrialist who could be successful only during this short period in his prolonged competition with the foreign capitalists is going to be ruined where are the words of hope? So I should earnestly urge upon the Government not to levy this Excess Profit tax with retrospective effect and abolish this tax immediately the circumstances permit.

Sir, I welcome the Government's large scale industrialisation policy. Wealth is rested in Travancore with certain class of people. They are shy to come forward to utilize their wealth for industry and commerce. So I welcome outside capital for some time. We have abundant man power. They have to be provided with employment. The way to increase the standard of living of the poor people is by taking away as many men to industrial centres and giving them employment in Industrial concerns and establishing better ways of economic life. The unorganised labour in agriculture is ill fed and ill clothed. They cannot prosper in the villages on account of social tyranny.

We had vast deposits of clay in Ithikara near Quilon. It waited until about half a century ago for a European named Chisober to come and exploit it. The Travancore capital and skill came and took up this only about 35 years ago. The Travancore skill was trained by

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that European, now our people are running many tile factories very successfully. So also with the coir. Sir, coir, our national industry was once a monopoly of European firms. One Mr. Dareegh came to Alleppey about a century ago and established a coir factory with foreign capital and skill. The training we got from European firms enabled us to establish many coir factories throughout the State and today we are in a position to compete most successfully with any outsider. Sir, it is gratifying to note that the Government is contemplating to run the mineral sand factories under the direct control of the State. This will result in making huge revenue say 50 to 75 lakhs to the State. Then I come to another matter *viz.*, salt. This industry also could be run under the direct control of the Government and make a huge profit. I hope the Government will take necessary steps to eliminate the present lease system.

As far as the small scale industries or cottage industries are concerned I should point out, Sir, that the Government is callously indifferent if not, positively hostile. I shall confine myself to coir industry and Hand-loom weaving industry. Sir, the Government has fixed the ceiling price for coir. Good. But what about the price of Husk raw and retted. There is no control. The retting of husks is in the hands of capitalists. They take all the profits. It has to pass too many hands before it reaches the consumer; and the middlemen take all the profits. The producer in the midst is crushed. Then again what about the mats and matting industry? There also the small scale industrialists are not encouraged by the Government. Sir, it is the paramount duty of the Government to safeguard the interests of cottage industries. The Government's experience with the trade must have shown them in unmistakable terms how unorganised the coir industry is from the husk retting stage up to the factory. This is our national industry which cater to the prosperity of thousands of people. The industry is being carried on over a cottage basis and it is seen that poor men and women take their daily production to the nearest evening markets or to the nearest shops in the localities. Tremendous improvements can be made both in the production of quality and in the marketing. I recommend very strongly that legislation may immediately be brought for the establishment of licensed ware houses under co-operative department in the centres of production with an apex licensed ware house at Quilon and Alleppey. Thereby the middle men could be eliminated and the producer will get what he or she is really entitled to.

PRESIDENT: Last year having regard to the remarks made by the honourable member I appealed to the small scale industrialists to join together by way of Joint Stock Companies or co-operative societies If they had done that they could have got a fair proportion of the orders. I hope the honourable member will utilise his energies in that direction.

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MR. A. K. BHASKAR: Yes. Sir. Next to coir industry comes the Hand-loom weaving industry. The pitiable plight of about 2 lakhs of men and women engaged in the industry should receive the attention of Government, I find nothing is being done for them. Nobody knows what will be the fate of this industry when cheap foreign clothes are dumped on us after the war. They will be left unemployed unless the Government comes to their rescue, now, and take proper steps to see that they do not perish in the competition.

PRESIDENT: Honourable member will finish quickly.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR: Sir, it is a notorious fact that people inhabiting the costal area of Travancore especially on the strip between the sea and the backwaters do not get good drinking water. Good water is one of the necessities of life. The people inhabiting this area are either engaged in coir, fishing or in the monosite industry. These are the people who are the backbone of the country. They enable the capitalist to pay tax on income and therefore is it not fair, Sir, that a small portion of the tax is spent to enable the miserable people to get good drinking water? I see nowhere in the budget a provision for this. Of course, people who have the means will get fresh water from distant places. But the poor people cannot afford this. So I earnestly urge upon the Government to make some provision for the supply of good drinking water to these people so that the Director of Public Health may not have to worry about their health.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, in considering a budget like the one which has been presented before this House by the Financial Secretary, there is always a tendency to apply old standards. The world is changing more rapidly than perhaps even the most progressive minded of us were to conceive a few years ago. The world of 1945 is not the world of 1938. The world has changed much since then. So much so it would be wrong to apply the old standards in considering a budget now.

Time was when congratulations used to be bestowed on a balanced budget and more congratulations on a surplus budget. But now the question is not whether there is a balanced budget but how far the budget serves to secure a decent standard of living for every citizen in the State. The authors of the Atlantic Charter put it as securing the freedom from want for every citizen. That is especially true in a country like ours where there are more than six million people and only an area of 7926 sq. miles of land. There is density of population and food is limited and six million people have to be fed. It cannot be argued with any amount of justice that our people are properly fed or properly nourished. It is well-known that our people are underfed and undernourished. So when a representative of the people like me views the budget, it is necessarily from the point of view of these undernourished and underfed people.

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Before I proceed to make my general comments, I may be permitted to offer a few remarks on some of the subjects which have been under discussion in this House. Two views have been put forward regarding the budget that has been presented. The Financial Secretary has not been quite optimistic about the state of revenues in the years to come and that quite legitimately. He legitimately anticipates a period of deflation when the revenues of the State may not reach such hights as it has now reached. A contrary view has been put forward that there is no ground for dismay on the ground that the proposed industries are likely to bring in high revenues in the years to come; so much so we will be in a position to keep up the same level as we are doing now. I am rather inclined to agree with the Financial Secretary. I do not, for a momemt contend that the industries will necessarily fail. But at the same time I am not prepared to agree with the view that the industries will necessarily succeed and bring us more revenue.

Sir, as you have stated this morning, there is cut-throat competition in the world market. Our industries will have to compete with the industries in th wide markets of the world. Immediately after the war against Japan is over, there will be great industrialisation all over the world when there will be cut-throat competition. There can be no manner of doubt about that. Soviet Russia, as Mr. Wendel Wilkie has pointed out in his book 'One World', has been industrialising at a more rapid rate than even the United States of America. Germany itself, after the Armistice has been finally concluded, is likely to revive herself and that will be a great factor. Japan herself after her defeat will try to recoup her old position in the field of industry. At that time, if we are to stand successfully in the matter of competition, it is possible only under a National Government in India. If there is going to be no National Government in India, we in Travancore, in the matter of industries are bound to suffer as much as the rest of India. That is my humble view. Therefore, I submit before the House that it is not safe to say that we will be able to have the same revenue after the war as we are having at present. Such being the case, it is not safe to differ from the Financial Secretary. I have a particular object in view in adverting to this subject. It has been time and again contended before the House that services in the State are over-manned and the administration is top heavy. A reference to the Budget Memorandum will show what exactly is the expenditure in regard to the services of the State. I may refer to page 8 of the Memorandum. From there it will be seen that the expenditure on salaries is estimated at 189 lakhs for 1121, under travelling allowance 8 lakhs and under contingencies it is 53 lakhs.

PRESIDENT: But that includes various items of expenditure under control heads. All that will stop when the war is over. The war allowance also will stop.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: That then is the main question. If I am not mistaken, even after deducting the expenditure in connection with the control measures, it is a huge figure now. Sir, you have been

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[Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai.]

pleased to advert to this subject—the recent increase of pay in your speech at the joint session. There has been recently an increase of pay and according to you there is justification for that increase. This is what you, Sir, have stated.

> "All that I am anxious to point out is this, viz. when faced with an unprecedented crisis, the Public Servants of Travancore stood up as one man and manfully performed their tasks, and it would ill become an employer like myself if it were not made possible for them to live happily and free from irksome cares."

No rightminded person can object to this statement. It is absolutely essential that the services must be satisfied. But the main question is this. In the matter of services, we on the non-official side feel that employees in the inferior services are not properly dealt with, and employees in the higher services are unduly favoured. There has been increment of pay in respect of the employees in the higher grade and there has been a slight increase of pay in respect of the employees in the lower grade. The latter category are now receiving war allowances. Anybody who is acquainted with the conditions in this country know that most of these employees in the lower grades cannot support their families with the poor income that they are receiving from Government. So much so, in spite of all that has been said, it is difficult for me to subscribe to the view that the employees in the lower grade are living happily and are free from irksom cares. When one comes across these half famished public servants in the lower grade one feels ashamed of oneself and keenly realises the helplessness of his own position. From the stand point of the budget the position is this. After the war, war allowances for these poor employees will go. The pay which has been fixed for the gentlemen in the higher grade will remain. So much so when the finances of the State will be decreasing these employees in the lower grade will not be getting any allowance. In later years it will be only by stinting the pay of the officers in the lower grade, that the budget will be balanced. But, Sir, that will not be in consonance with elementary justice. The contention that has been put forward that the employees in the lower grade of service are in a happy position and free from care, I submit, is not a tenable one. The expenditure has reached a very high figure. It must be difficult in later years to cut down the expenditure because the pay of the higher grade employees is fixed. If at all any reduction is made it must relate to the allowances of the lower grade men who are now leading a life of hand to mouth existence. It will not be in consonance with justice in later years to stint their allowance. At that time when the revenues are likely to fall the expenditure on salaries must be at a stand still. Therefore, I venture to submit before the House that the contention that has been put forward namely that there is cause for complete optimism is not justified.

I come to the next subject to which also advertance has been made in this House and that relates to the co-ordination of various services. There is the Agricultural Department, the Industries Department, the Co-operative Department all with one object to better the

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condition of the masses of our people. These Departments do not work in the unison. Take for example the Agricultural Inspector in a taluk, and the Co-operative Inspector: also there are employees in the Industries Department. Most of them do not know their respective functions. Nor do they try to know the functions of each other. They do not organise themselves in any matter. These departments do not bring about anything good to the people at large. I am constrained to submit before this House that the result achieved by the work of these departments are next to nothing from the stand point of the people. It may therefore be said that there is necessity for the co-ordination of the activities of these departments. I may venture to make one other submission in this connection. It is not sufficient that the department co-ordinate their activities and the heads of these departments must invite the co-operation of the representatives of the people in the legislatures but also of thousands of people from the general public so that they can appreciate that line of work and satisfy themselves whether money spent on the departments concerned are usefully spent and convince themselves as to the utility of the measures carried out by the said departments.

I pass on to the one subject which has been subjected to acrimonious controversy in this House as well as elsewhere. There is the proposal regarding the agricultural income tax. On principle no right minded person can say that there is any wrong about it. I support the proposal. Last year Mr. Nataraja Pillai brought a cut motion on this subject after due consultation with me and my friends. We advocated then that principle. I still advocate that principle. There can be no manner of doubt that it has one advantage viz., it secures equity and every Government exists for that namely to secure equity between citizen and citizen. The real effects of this measure would be to mitigate the evils of differencee in income between citizen and citizen. When all is said and done, if the incomes of certain persons go up necessarily the income of the majority must go down. Every State will have to adopt measures to bring about equity in income between citizen and citizen. I have no doubt that if the measures regarding the agricultural income tax are properly worked out the evils resulting from differences between citizen and citizen in the matter of income can be obviated to a great extent. On that ground I am supporting that proposition.

MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Is this not a matter in which the Leader of the State Congress Party said yesterday that they were not consulted in the matter.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: I do not worry myself about that aspect. But I must be clear about one point,

MR. K. A. MATHEW: My friend was referring to the statement of the State Congress Party. May I know what he was referring to?

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MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI: When Mr. Nataraja Pillai gave a cut motion during last year for discussing the inequality in land tax, the honourable member Mr. Narayana Pillai as Leader of the State Congress Party put forward before the House that this House was not consulted about the principle involved therein.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: No Sir, There was no such thing.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: Last year it was duly considered when I was connected with the State Congress Party. It was duly brought before us and we discussed it in our meetings. Mr. Nataraja Pillai proposed the cut motion after due consultation with all of us and after approval has been secured therefor. Now that I am away from the Party, I will be failing in my duty to my electorate if I do not tell before this House that there is some uncanny feelings in the minds of the agriculturists that this measure cannot be worked to the good of the people. A fear has been expressed in this House that subordinate employees in the Revenue Department may utilise it as a source of oppression so far as the people are concerned. But speaking for myself I do not apprehend that. I am sure that so far as my constituency is concerned the subordinate officers will not be able to oppress our people. That being the case I have absolutely no hesitation even on that ground from advocating this measure. No doubt many persons living south of my constituency and north of it do entertain a fear that the subordinate officials of the Land Revenue Department may utilise it as a source of oppression so far as the citizens are concerned.

PRESIDENT: I am rather in doubt on that matter. I take it that income tax will be leviable only on incomes above Rs. 1500 or Rs. 2000 or whatever you call it. Below that income the subordinate revenue officers do not go in and above that income persons who have to pay income tax can protect themselves against such subordinate officials. I cannot understand what the real difficulty is.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: In my constituency even if anybody is tempted to oppress the people it cannot be effective because we have a kind of well organised system to deal with such matters.

The House adjourned for lunch at 2 P. M. and reassembled at 3 P. M. with the Dewan President in the Chair.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. A. Gunamony, Income-Tax Commissioner took the oath and signed the Rolls.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I ventured to submit before this House that the true criterion on the basis of which this budget must be judged is whether it enables every citizen in the State to earn a decent living. Judged from that standard, I have no manner of doubt that some of the schemes proposed in the budget are calculated to secure that great end. The scheme for improvement of fishery, scheme for irrigation facilities, scheme for improvement of cattle and last but not least the Vizhinjam harbour scheme if properly worked and if people properly work in co-operation with the scheme will, no doubt, go a great way to secure that great end. I cannot help commenting at this stage on the great, if I may use that expression,

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Perunchany scheme, I have no manner of doubat that in the fulness of time it will confer inestimable benefits on the peasantry in South Travancore and generations yet unborn will conside[illegible]eruncham scheme as one of the greatest schemes adumbrated by this Government for where there is continued failure of crops there will be good crops year after year when this scheme is completed. Therefore I have no doubt that people in South Travancore will be immensely grateful that the scheme has been adumbrated though they have been advocating for it for so many years. Equally so is the case with Vizhinjam Harbour scheme. As has been submitted before this House, when completed it is likely to afford scope for work for thousands of unemployed and also help commerce to a very great extent.

But when all is said and done, the scheme so far adumbrated touch only the fringe of the whole problem of unemployment in the State. And that after all is it that is wanted? What is wanted is not touching the problem here, and touching the problem there, but planning on a nation-wide scale so that every citizen may get his due share for the enjoyment of life. You, Sir, have made the following observation in 1117. I may be permitted to quote a passage from your speech in 1117 after Joint Session.

> "The starting of all these agricultural and industrial reforms will depend in the long run for their ultimate success upon what I venture to call the rural reconstruction, the renaissance and recreation of village life and village activities. Without those the rest will be a huge superstructure on an inadequate and insufficient foundation."

That exactly is what I have to submit before this House. In other words, it means that there must be planning on a nation-wide scale so that every village must be planned, and so that every citizen can be assured of the wherewithal for decent existence. Otherwise all the proceedings of this Assembly, our speeches here and everything else will become a farce so far as the ordinary citizen is concerned. He does not worry whether the budget is balanced or whether the figures have been correctly totalled up or whether a cut motion has been carried or whether it has been defeated. What he cares for is to keep his body and soul together. The success or failure of the budget must be judged on that basis. My submission is that if it has failed in this all-important matter it is immaterial however far it has succeeded in other directions.

A period in which the soldiers who are now in active service will return has come. What is the position then? There again I shall explain myself by quoting a passage from your speech in 1119.

> "But the problem of the future is that of the returned soldier, of the men who have fought for their King and their country, who will return not for semi-starvation, not for frustration, not for that economic dependence and servility which was their unfortunate lot before they went into the army. Perhaps, before the end of the war, there will be about 2 to 3 million people who have seen the West and the East, who have measured their strength with the so-called irresistible Nazi might as well as with the Japanese. They will come back and you have to find a footing for them. Are you going to rehabilitate their condition? Unless and until you and I find out a living for them, they will solve the problem for themselves without asking by your leave. Let us remember that."

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[Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai]

I venture to submit before this Assembly that every one of us will have to remember that. These soldiers will return in large numbers and we have to find work for them. I must submit before this House that there is not much in the budget that has been framed in order to meet this all-important and grave problem. I am alive to the difficulties which must confront a Government like this, constituted as it is. The administration is top-heavy. Money has to be found in order to meet the salaries of the officers and to run the day to day administration. No body with the best intention in the world with a Government constituted as it is will be able to solve this all-important problem. I mean no disparagement to anybody. I mean disparagement only to the system. What is the way out? The authors of the Bombay plan, those Business Magnates, Industrialists and intellectuals who constituted that Committee, framed the Bombay plan have pointed out that the only solution is to form a National Government. A National Government constituted by the elected representatives of the people alone will be able to solve this all-important problem because they have got a moral weight with them. If a Government constituted like ours tries to force certain decisions they often meet with opposition however well-meant the decision may be. Take for example the agricultural income tax. The motive is pure. Nevertheless opposition is there because it has not got the moral sanction of the people. Therefore, in order that a scheme of all-round national re-construction may be effected so that every citizen may be assured a decent living, there must be a National Government, a government composed of the representatives of the people. Therefore, I submit that the first requisite for national reconstruction and to assure every citizen a decent living is to allow a National Government to be formed. Sir, you have expressed your views before this House on this all-important question, I venture to make this submission to you and before this August Assembly in all humility.

PRESIDENT : The honourable member is coming to the end of his time.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI : My time is almost up and in conclusion, Sir, I have only this much to submit. I request you, on behalf of the people whom I represent, to place your marvellous intellectual gifts of intellect and learning undoubted influence in the various political spheres in this great sub-continent, India at the disposal of the people of Travancore so that they may be able to secure a Government responsible to the people and so that at no distant time a budget may be prepared by their own chosen representatives and so that they may secure for every citizen a decent living free from want. With these words I resume my seat.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI : Sir, the new budget era opens with very redeeming features in the international situation. The forces of freedom, democracy civilisation and progress have won at last

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against the forces of repression, totalitarianism, barbarity and reaction. Sir, as is bound to happen it has happened. Nevertheless, so far as the Indian situation is concerned, it is very disappointing to note that the Wavell plan has failed and the Indian National Congress is at the present juncture in a fix as to what to do next. Let us hope that our national organisation will meet the situation with sufficient mental alertness and fortitude. Sir, I may be permitted to remark at the very outset that today we are standing at the pathway between war and post-war. Till now we were living in a situation of war and now we are going from war to post-war. As the Financial Secretary has very pertinantly remarked in his budget speech, the post-war world is going to be more difficult than the war period in which we were till now living. The buoyancy of the financial position of the State, as disclosed by the budget, is really very satisfactory. But at the same time, it has to be said that this buoyancy denote more the inflationary tendency in the country and also the plethora of money in the State and not any increase in the national income of the State. I may also say that it is really a point for satisfaction that in spite of all these vicsicitudes and fluctuations in the economic world our liquid cash assets is estimated by the Financial Secretary to stand at Rs. 406 and odd lakhs at the end of this year. That in the natural course of events will exert a steadying influence at a time the State will have to tide over a situation which is not very distant and which will not be a time of boon.

Though we were passing through a period of buoyancy it is unfortunate and I may be permitted to say rather mysterious to note that the State has incurred a debt to the extent of Rs. 470 and odd lakhs.

Sir, the Financial Secretary in his speech made on the floor of this House in 1119 stated that the financial position of the Country was very sound and that there would be no necessity to borrow any money in 1120 or in the near future. Within a few months of his making that statement the State raised a loan to the extent of three crores of rupees. Last year also.....

PRESIDENT: The loan was raised not because the Government wanted any money, but because there was money available in the State which was being used for inflationary purposes and, therefore, in pursuance of what all Governments do in war time, for the purpose of tapping that money available with the public, a loan was raised.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI: Thank you Sir, for the explanation. I was aware of it and I was about to refer to it; and now that you have said that, I am bound to say this. We are bound to repay the money which we borrowed at a time of boom, during a period of economic dullness. That is the point I want to state in reply, and from my point of view that is not a redeeming feature more over "anti inflationory measure" will not be a justifiable explanation, for when there were people in Travancore to subscribe to the loan more

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[Mr. S. Sankaranarayanan Tampi]

than 60 percent. of the loan is covered by outside subscription and diversion from Devawom and Revenue funds. It was I must say, a regrettable feature.

Leaving that apart, I would draw the attention of this hohourable house to a very serious omission in the speech of the Financial Secretary this year, namely, his not having disclosed the figures regarding Food purchase. Last year, we found certain figures on page 15 of his speech. This year, it is conspicuously wanting and one is at a loss to see what led him to be silent on a vital matter like the food position in the country. Varying statements are made by the Dewan-President time and often that a loss is likely to be made to the extent of half to one crore. That being the position, I feel that it is our right and privilege that matters relating to the Food position in the State are disclosed to the members of this Legislature.

The Debt Head advance item this year is 950 lakhs of rupees. Last year, it was 700 lakhs. The repayable advance under Debt Heads was 950 lakhs. That was disbursed on account of the food purchase and a provision is made for 700 lakhs next year. I wish once again to bring to the notice of the house that from the way in which this item of advance is made repayable it must be treated as a votable demand in the Budget and not as a non-votable demand. This house has a right to seek an explanation on this matter.

Advances are brought before us as demands on special advances involving crores, and are kept back without putting it to the Legislature. I think that this system of doing things will not be continued by Government at least in the future. Further, Sir, the house will be naturally entitled to know where we stand in relation to the purchase of food and its disbursement. In view of statements that you as Dewan have made on several occasions regarding the loss that may probably be sustained by the Government in this venture, is it not the right of this house to know the exact position? We do not know.....

PRESIDENT: The losses that I refer to are these: Grains worth some nine or ten crores are stored in various buildings, godowns and offices commandeered for the purpose. We have no store-houses. In this process there is likely to be loss by rats four-footed and two footed There is likely to be loss on account of disintegration, by fungus and by moisture. These are things which can be only tested by reconditioning from time to time and from checking the balance that is there. A Special Officer has been put on duty for the purpose of reconditioning all the grain in all our godowns and the procedure is going, and only after all this is done and we come to the final balance sheet of all the grain that is purchased and sold, that we shall know what loss we have sustained.

So far as the other matter is concerned, it is not a question of votability, because we pay whatever the Government of India asks us to pay. The Government of India say 'You purchase from Sind so

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much; from Orissa so much; from the United Provinces so much.' And payments are made automatically by this Government on bills furnished by the Government of India.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI: Sir, though I feel I could reply to that point, for fear that I may be hauled up after some time and for fear lest the time at my disposal.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order, I have taken one minute and one minute will be added more to the time of the honourable member.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI: This extension then, Sir will have to be repeated several times and I do not want to rob this house of its precious time and myself of the points that I want to urge. Sir, it is only in the interests of the Government that such details are furnished before the house and discussed by the members here.

Sir, at a time when it was pointed out by the house that a report on the Food administration should be placed on the floor of the house a statement was made on behalf of Government, and the discussion was avoided. Several times motions were made on the floor of the Assembly for the discussion of the whole situation, but fortunately for the Government or unfortunately for ourselves it has not come up for discussion ever.

Similarly, in the matter of Yarn and Textiles, the Government are advancing money without disclosing the actual details to this House. Sir, we have very often heard the aims of the Government to develop the natural resources of the State and its latent potentialities. At this time last year, the Financial Secretary on page 11 of his speech enunciated certain things that were to be done in 1120. I may tell you, Sir, that none of those things have been done and this year, he comes with another list of what he proposes to do next year. This year it is stated that the Government wish to do a lot of things. I do not want to enter into details, nevertheless, I may inform the House that what was adumbrated last year has not been actually carried out. This year, the Financial Secretary comes forward with a different set of proposals intended to be done next year. I do not want to find fault with the list of reforms which he has brought forward, but I want the Government to do some thing and not indulge in tall-talk. There may be very good schemes brought forward, but a good administration of the State is manifested in doing things and not in talking of things.

Sir, I do not forget that this State indulges in a very bold policy of industrialisation and at this time of the day, I do not want to deal with that particular branch of activity of the Government. I shall reserve that to a subsequent stage in this Session. There were very serious apprehensions felt by many members as to what would be the fact of industrialisation if foreign capital is allowed to be imported into the State at such an enormous rate. Whatever that might be, it has to be stated that the Government is making honest attempts for the industrialisation of the State, but how that affects the citizens of the State is a matter for discussion. It is a matter which gives rise to great differences of opinion between one man and another man.

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[Mr. S. Sankaranarayanan Tampi]

That apart, I shall now deal with matters which do not really deserve congratulation on the part of the Government. Sir, when the revenue stood at a figure slightly below 2 crores, the amount spent on communication, minor irrigation and medicine were 2·3 lakhs, 14·29 lakhs and 2·2 lakhs respectively. Now we have an income of more than 6 crores of rupees and the amount spent under each of these does not show any advance. Sir, can it be said that the ordinary needs of the average citizen in the State has become the less now than what it was in 1100 or 1099? Certainly, no. It can be only attributed to the want of proper attention that the Government are willing to bestow on this preliminary and indispensible needs of the people. I may say that it is not my intention to find fault with the Government; nor is it my intention to make a destructive criticism. I am sure of my grounds and I have figures before me. Sir, good schemes are only adumbrated and not carried out. I wish to know whether it is because there are no facilities to carry them out, or is it because they are unworkable schemes. In my opinion, all this is because there is something lacking some where. That something is lacking somewhere in the Administration and not in the people of the country. Sir, you do not I am sorry, I have to say that—you do not want the people to heartily and willingly co-operate with the administration. I do not wish to say a word about Responsible Government. The constitutional position which you have taken up and which you have been adhering to is a matter of dispute and on that matter an academic discussion may be possible between yourself and myself. I do not want to say anything about constitutional difficulties that stand in the way of responsible Government, but it is the right of the citizen to ask for it. It is a very sad feature of this Government that the people are not taken into confidence on a liberal scale, on a scale that is expected from any good Government. Sir, as the Head of the administration, you have the right to advise His Highness the Maharaja. Travancore has to its credit an administration of nearly a centuary where the Sovereign is solely governed by the advise of the head of the Executive. Travancore has set up such a convention and I am proud to say that the Monarchs of Travancore has all along been constitutional Monarchs though in reality they all have the prerogatives of feudal monarchs. That convention has been established here under several Executive Heads. We are for the last ten years under your administration, Sir, and all the acts of the Sovereign are being advised by the head of the executive. The people possess a right to criticise the Administration. They are not criticising His Highness the Maharaja. They are criticising the administration, and as the head of the executive, the Dewan is criticised. It is unconstitutional or rather it is wrong to say that the head of the executive is above criticism. That right of criticism is curbed to the dismay of the people at large. The freedom of criticism in the present system of administration is very severely curbed.

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Moreover, the head of the executive is solely responsible for the good Government of the State. That being so, the administration being so much centralised, the subordinates of the Department cannot be chosen with that amount of care as should be bestowed on them. I really do not know whether I will be right in saying that the Travancore Public Service has deteriorated to a very large extent. I do not use any other expression—though I want to use some other expression—and shall be content with this characterisation. You yourself have observed once that appointments are made for political reasons as well. I do not say that the Government appoint persons to the Public service purely on political grounds, but you said that political appointments are also being made. Sir, my request is that in making political appointments, it has to be borne in mind by the Government that as a matter of grace to the citizens at large the services rendered to the State or imagined to be rendered by the persons concerned in political matters should not be the primary consideration in making appointments. Such persons should be appointed only in places where they are not able to exert malicious influence on the citizens of the State. I do not know whether I will be right in saying that there have been very serious allegations against persons holding very eminent positions in the public service of the State. I for one am personally convinced of those allegations, and if I make any observation against any particular officer about corruption or undue influences or anything of that kind, you may call me to order and ask:—"Does the honourable member hold himself responsible for the allegations he has made?" The administration of the State at the present day is such that people are living in an atmosphere of suffocation. They cannot charge a Government officer with any manner of corruption or anything of the kind. It is all the more impossible for them if they are asked to prove the allegation. How can they prove it? The Public Service is given the right of trampling upon the people with such force that it is impossible for an average citizen to prefer a complaint against the offender.

There is another aspect of the matter. The administration is very much centralised that the Public Service as a whole is wanting in initiative and grit.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has three minutes more.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI: I pray that I may be granted five minutes more (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI: The subordinate officers in the Public Service ordinarily look up for guidance and initiating. If, Sir, you will not press me to disclose the names of persons, I may say that many officers of Government have told me that sanctions in departmental matters are guided from above. They have not been allowed that amount of freedom which they have been enjoying once upon a time in Travancore Government Service. Many officers have told me.....

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PRESIDENT: Order, order. If any officer feels like that and allows that feeling to guide his action, he is *ipso facto* unfit to be in public service; and therefore I think the honourable member is quite justified in not disclosing the names (Laughter) because the next moment, that officer will not be in public service. But I may say definitely and say it publicly so that every officer of Government may realise it, that I have generally given special preferment and encouragement mainly to those officers who have differed from Government's point of view and have put forward their own position. People who simply echo what Government say or simply wait for Government's stimulus before doing anything, generally do not find that they are promoted. If the history of promotions within the last few years are referred to, two things will be clear. Generally big appointments are given to those who have not asked for them. If appointments are asked for by a certain number of people, none of them are generally chosen for it, even though they may be in service. Secondly, those who ventured to differ from Government are generally chosen in preference to those who have agreed with the Government.

In order that the other officers should realise that, I say it publicly so that they may not have any such inward promptings as to confide in Mr. Sankaranarayanan Tampi (Laughter). They need not think that everything is guided from above, because, it is not so. This Government definitely act upon their advice and have treated the Secretariat only as a conduit pipe. The Secretariat puts up notes both for and against the Heads of Departments and their recommendations, and the Heads of Departments, I take it, do the same in regard to their subordinates.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI: Thank you for the information. Nevertheless, however, great a man may be, however great a genius he may be and however broad shouldered he may be, unless there is decentralisation, it is impossible for the present day administration to carry on.

Sir, you have been all along been seeking the co-operation of the people in many matters—in the Public Works Department, in the Co-operative Department and in many other schemes both in this House and elsewhere. The people are in fact too glad to extend their co-operation provided they are really given the co-operation and not simply asked that their co-operation is wanted.

Sir, before I close my remarks I want to make one comparison between the Mysore and Travancore budgets in the suspense account items of the respective Budget. In a State like Mysore, where the revenues mount up to Rs 9 crores, the receipts under Suspense Account is Rs 15 lakhs, whereas in a State like Travancore where the revenues mount up only to Rs. 6 crores, the receipts under Suspense Account stand at as high a figure as Rs 2 crores and odd. The disbursements are seen to be Rs. 2,56,000. Sir, I do not know whether this indicates a sound financial position or an unsound financial position. It is for the Financial Secretary to give this honourable House an explanation.

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MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Before coming to the discussion on the budget proper, I want to make my position clear with regard to the observation made by the Chair in the forenoon. I am quite confident that I was right in interpellating the Chair.

PRESIDENT: Both of us understand each other. (Laughter). You can proceed.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I was quite confident that I was not interrupting the Chair when I asked him whether more time could not be allotted to the other members to speak after the Deputy President spoke. The observations from the Chair following that question were not commendable I do not comment on the observations. They were not quite in order.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member must withdraw that expression. To say that the Chairman's observations are not in order is not open to an honourable member. The honourable member will withdraw it.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I withdraw.

PRESIDENT: Thank you.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I am quite sure it was the convention of the House to allow—new members to speak after the speech of the Deputy President.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. It is not the convention of the House. The honourable member must verify the facts before talking on that matter.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: What I understood was, that it was the convention —

PRESIDENT: I tell you it was not, and it has never been the convention of the House. Therefore the honourable member will accept my statement. (Laughter).

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I could not understand the procedure adopted by the Dewan President in calling upon members from here and there—

PRESIDENT: The honourable member is out of order. He will withdraw his expression. (Laughter).

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I could not understand the procedure adopted by the Chair.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member has no right to criticise the calling of the various persons by the President.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: On a point of explanation. It is not a matter for criticism but a matter of legitimate right.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The calling upon any member or not calling upon any member is one of the few matters which are entirely at the discretion of the Chair and nobody is entitled to canvass or discuss that matter.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: I am bound by the Ruling, if it is a Ruling.

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MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, Before coming to the details of the policy adumbrated by the Government with regard to certain schemes, on which I wish to dwell, somewhat in detail, I will attempt an analysis of the general features of the budget presented by the Financial Secretary.

The budget presented by the Financial Secretary is not one that deserves appreciation or compliment. To one who does not scrutinise the details of the budget the estimated revenue of 623·65 lakhs may appear to be a permanent income which gives much consolation and room for satisfaction, in that, from the point of revenue, our State has risen to a third place among Indian States; I mean, next in rank, only to Hyderabad and Mysore. But on my part, I venture to say, that, a close study of the Budget dispels this feeling, for, it can clearly be seen that the figure shown by the Financial Secretary towards the estimated revenue is inflationary, nay, transitory, due to the temporary abnormal rise in the price of the commodities in the State due to War booms.

The Budget Memorandum shows that the main Heads under which the revenues have risen are, Excise, Income Tax, Stamps and Registration, and Forest. The revenues from these sources were more or less steady and not far fluctuating till the outbreak of the war in the year 1115. The figures shown at page 4 of the Budget Memorandum show that since 1115 there is an unprecedented rise of the revenues under the above heads. What is this due to? Is the revenue going to be permanent? Before dealing with this aspect I will quote the following figures to show the revenues under the above heads in the year 1115, *i. e.*, at the outbreak of the war, and the estimated revenue in 1121, for purpose of elucidation.

Revenue head.	*Income in 1115*	*Income in 1121.*
Excise ...	46·10	131·89
Income Tax ...	11·46	120·00
Stamps and Registration ...	25·86	49·5
Forests ...	16·93	56·00

The above figures are in lakhs of Rupees. From these figures it is clear that the revenues under the above heads have found a rapid increase after the outbreak of the war. The Excise revenue has tribled since 1115, income tax has increased 10 times and under the other two heads also there is an appalling rise. If this rise in the State Revenues was due to the natural growth of economic factors it would have been consoling. But in these cases the rise is not due to the natural growth of economic factors; but solely the result of war booms.

The improvement in the recent years under Income Tax is due to the peculiar favourable conditions created by war for business men to earn large profits from trade, industry and agriculture. The rise on the revenue under Excise is due to the favourable economic conditions

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created by War by way of greater spending power of the people, especially, the labouring classes. The inflation of money and the loss of faith in Banks after the year 115 showed a phenominal increase in the transaction relating to investments on landed properties. The present revenue under Stamps and Registration is the natural result of this state of affairs. The situations created by war led to an exceptionally high price of timber. The increase of the State Revenue from forests is the direct result of the increase in price of timber.

From the facts and figures I have given above it is evident that the revenues under the four heads stated above have risen as a result of the conditions created by war. How far these revenues are going to be permanent incomes of the State is a matter not free from doubt. I venture to state that, when prices fall and war boom ceases the revenues under these heads will go down considerably, if not, somewhere to the neighbourhood of the figures of the year 1115.

My apprehensions are not so much with regard to the fall of the income, as in respect of the State undertaking large schemes which demand an enromous outlay on the basis of the present transitory state revenues. From she speech of the Financial Secretary and from the eloquent speech of the Dewan President I understand, that large schemes and projects are in the contemplation of the Government. How far, the Government will be able to embark on such large schemes and how far the expenditure towards them can successfully be met from the State Revenues is a matter for financial experts of the State. Here, I pause, and suggest a word of caution, that the Government should assure themselves of the stability and permanency of the State Revenues before they embark on initiating the large schemes and projects referred to in the respective speeches.

Coming to the details of the Budget I wish to make a few observations of my own on one or two aspects. I will take up education first. It is glad to note that the Government have set apart 75 lakhs of Rupees for education excluding Rs. 7 lakhs for postwar educational reorganisation. We are very glad that the amount of 7 lakhs is for trying the scheme of compulsory education in three select Urban and non-urban areas in the State. I advisedly use the word "trying" because, I venture to suggest that there is a possibility that compulsion in regard to education in this State may prove to be superfluous in the circumstances of this State. I am inclined to think that in many parts of the State, if not in the whole of the State, the distribution of books, clothes and mid-day meals to the poor children will ensure cent parcent voluntary attendance of children of school going age in schools. We are all aware that the present scheme will inevitably involve an additional expenditure on account of the supervising agency, the prosecuting machinery, and other incidental matters which have no direct relation to the imparting of instruction or the promotion of education. I can give a suggestion on this point. My suggestion is that the Government may be pleased to come to this House for additional grants for the purpose of promoting compulsory education by providing text

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[Mr. P. Kochukrishna Pillai.]

books, clothes and mid-day meals to the children of the poorer class. The expedient I suggest is by exploiting the patriotic and philanthropic sentiments of the people of the State by voluntary efforts, the State giving the head by giving munificent grant. This is only a suggestion I put forward for the consideration of Government because in the circumstances of this State, the method I suggest will go to cut down the enormous expenditure under the above head. It may be adopted as an experimental measure in certain areas, say, Quilon, Alleppey and Parur. From the working of this scheme and that of the scheme contemplated by Government during the next few years it can be seen which method is more beneficial and less expensive to achieve the ultimate object.

Speaking on educational reorganization this House will forgive me when I express my apprehensions in a matter regarding the future. It is this:—The State will have inevitably to foot an increasingly heavier bill as years roll on in order to make the University of Travancore one of the leading Universities of India. The elementary education fostered in the manner contemplated in the Budget will demand a large slice of the State Revenue. Secondary, Technical and Technological education, by no means negligible, may demand their share, increasingly, no doubt. How far the increasing demands of different grades of education can successfully be met from the State Revenue when other social services like medicine, Public Health and communications demand their share also, is a vital problem for the Financial Experts of the State in fnture. Therefore I would suggest, that, while the State undertakes elementary education ond University education on their own responsibility, it may successfully leave Secondary education to the local Boards, Public bodies and Municipalities, of course, with proper safeguards by the Government.

I cannot leave this branch of the subject, without refering to the condition of the private iustitutions of the State and those employed in those institutions. I do not wish to take much time of this House by dilating on the necessity of bettering the emoluments and the tenure of those who are engaged in the teaching profession in the private institutions of the State. I may rest content by drawing the kind attention of the Government in this matter. I hope that early measures will be adopted to improve the condition of these private institutions and the lot of the poor teachers.

The next important feature of the Budget is the Post-war Reconstruction Schemes; i. e. schemes and projects to enable us to meet, to meet successfully, a new world and a new world conditions that may confront us when the last blow has been dealt on the enemy. In this connection I may make special reference to the Perinchani Reservoir Scheme and the Pampayar Scheme. As the Perinchani Scheme to South Travancore, the Pumpayar Scheme is to Central Travancore. My submission is that if the Pampayar Scheme is also put into operation at the earlist possible opportunity the entire population of Central Travancore will be grateful to the present Government for the initiation of this laudable scheme which will prove beneficial to thousands of the people of the State.

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Coming next to the Land Revenue Policy adumbrated by the Government recently and referred to in the eloquent speech of the Dewan President, I congratulate Government. The new policy will probably be the first of its kind in India. It is long, since the people of the State began to feel the necessity for a change in the system of Land Tax in the State. There is no equality or proportion in the levy of land tax in the State. There is also great disparity in the levy of tax between the North, South and Central Travancore. Even within each of these areas there is inequality in the assessment and levy of land tax. Therefore, when the people were craving for some better system of land tax it is gratifying to note that the Government have come forward with the new policy in respect of the Land Revenue. In this connection I have only one suggestion to make : and it is this : I think that the Government have tentatively fixed the basic tax at 4 cash per cent. This basic tax is proposed to be introduced on the cent basis, irrespective of any other consideration, *viz.* the quality of the soil or the quantity of the yield. It is therefore, that, I suggest that the basic tax should be the minimum and as moderate as possible My suggestion is that the basic tax should be reduced to 2 cash per cent.

PRESIDENT : As the honourable member has apparently devoted some attention to this matter, I may point out that at present our land revenue is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 41 to 42 lakhs. The figure suggested by the Government would probably bring in about Rs. 20 lakhs and the figure suggested by the honourable member will bring in Rs. 10 lakhs as the total basic land revenue. From that point of view the honourable member may proceed with his argument.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : Sir, when I urge for a reduction of the basic land tax to 2 cash per cent I am not unmindful of the corresponding reduction of the State Revenue under this head. My submission is that the reduction of the Land Revenue which is intended to benefit the poor ryots of the State can amply be compensated from other sources of income, I mean especially, from the Agricultural Income Tax.

Before closing I appeal to the Government that a scheme may be evolved ensuring the ends for the people of the State similar to those adumbrated in the Beveridge Scheme in the United Kingdom as well as its counter part in the United States of America.

PRESIDENT : Does the honourable member refer to Social Insurance ?

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : Yes, Sir.

Lastly, I appeal to the Government in all earnestness to realise the fact, that, there is a genuine craving among all sections of the people of the State for liberalising the administration of the State, for ushur — the responsible Government. Sir, you who have made epochingmacking reforms during your administration will solve the problem of responsible Government also and thus satisfy the feelings of the people of the State. I hope that if not full responsible Government, at least, responsive Government will be established in the State at the earlist possible occasion.

I thank you, Sir, and this House, for the patient hearing.

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MR. K. G. THOMAS (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalai*): I am one of the four members representing the Alleppey-Sherthalla constituency. This constituency is composed of 2 taluks, Ambalapuzha and Sherthala. They together cover an area approximately 270 sq. miles and hold about 5 lakhs of population, i, e., 1/12 of the State population although the area is only 1/39.

There is another distinction for these taluks. The major portion of Ambalapuzha taluk which is familiarly known as Kuttanad is rather a man-made one. It was one vast sheet of water and the cultivable lands in that taluk have been raised from the depths of the Pamba and the Vempanad lake. In the case of the Shertalla taluk there is only a narrow fertile strip on the coast and a still narrower edge facing the Backwater, all the rest is of sand dunes. Thus the lands in the two taluks have been cultivated through the patient untiring industry of the people. Any amount of water poured on the sandy soil would sink deep into the earth and it is through unremitting labour the sand is kept sufficiently moist to support fruitful vegetation.

In spite of these handicaps these two taluks yield the largest revenue. They hold the largest proportion of the population. The most important industry, that is the manufacture of coir mats and matting is located in the two taluks. The important sea port of the State is here. Thus it is with good reason that I claim some sort of distinction for my taluks.

From what has been mentioned already it is obvious that the revenue that comes out of the taluk is the result of the untiring labour of the people. No easy conditions exist here and it would appear that the curse pronounced on Adam when he was expelled from Paradise that he would have to labour and sweat for his bread, has fallen heavy on the shoulders of these people. In spite of this hard work, the agriculturists were running into irredeemable debts and if the war had not come, much of the cultivable lands in the Ambalapuzha taluk would have gone back into water and many of the cocoanut trees of the Sherthala taluk would have perished through neglect. For the 10 years of depression that preceded the present war the agricultural produce of the taluk was sold much below the economic price. Taxes were paid not out of profits. It is not reasonable to expect that the present high price of agricultural produce would be maintained for a long time and the cultivators were looking forward with gloom, but now I am very happy to see that the unfortunate position has received the attention of the Government and as a remedy, the new method of assessment is being introduced. As this State is composed of small holdings the measure would be welcomed with gratitude by the generality of the people. As the full scheme is not out, it is too premature to make any comment but I believe that appropriate steps would be taken to differentiate between the revenues accruing from lands held under different titles, especially the Pandarapattom and Thettan rights. As is known to most members the rate of taxation on properties held under Thettan rights is only 1/8 of that of the Pandarapattom lands. As the new tax is going to be a token tax of 4 cash per cent, any adjustments in the rate of the token tax would not be sufficient to maintain the distinction between the Pandarapattom and Thettan holdings.

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I have begun by enunciating the reasons for distinction. There is another distinction and that is that the two taluks have contributed the largest amount of labour for war purposes. Above all this, there is an overwhelming consideration that these two taluks have contributed together 12,00,000 (one million and two hundred thousand) paras of paddy in one year. Sir, I am not referring to this for glorification, but only to enlist your sympathy in the matter of acquiring for the taluks improvements in communication which are at present very poor indeed. As I mentioned elsewhere the whole of the Sherthala taluk, is one vast stretch of sand heaps. During the last 30 years only 2 major schemes were worked for this taluk. One is the Alleppey Sherthala Canal and the other the Alleppey Aroor Road. The first scheme died in its infancy when only 3 miles of the canal had progressed each way. Although vast sums were spent for the construction of this no attempt was made to keep it trim and through neglect large portion has silted up. With good attention and a little expenditure this could be rendered serviceable and the needs of the place to that extent will be met, without any large capital outlay. The other major scheme is the Alleppey Aroor Road. It was a very fortunate scheme and it is now the main artery of the taluk Some 20 years ago any one travelling through the sandy pathway of this road would have seen only miles and miles of sand as far as eyes could reach, but now through its entire length flurishing cottage industries have sprung up and many of these have already developed into major factories, providing employments to several hundreds of people. It would gladden the heart of anyone to see this industrial progress during the short span of 15 years. This road itself is about 4 miles away from the sea shore, and the people living on the coast have still to carry their agricultural products to the market under primitive conditions. As the headload has to be carried through sandy pathways, very heavy wages have to be paid and therefore these poor cultivators are compelled to sell cocoanuts at considerably lower prices. They are losing 10 and 15 rupees on every 1000 coconuts. They cannot get medical aid quickly. They cannot get the building materials at the price the same articles are available in places with facilities of road and canal communication. Their earning is less and they are compelled to pay dearly for building up their small habitation. They are unable to start or develop any cottage industry.

Thus the most urgent need of the place is the improvement of communications by construction of cross roads connecting with the main artery. That improvement of the place by the costly canal communication may be undertaken only after the road communication have been completed.

When the labour battalions that have been recruited from the taluks are disbanded and the people come home, unemployment also will follow. The only thing that would absorb this labour is cottage industry. It cannot be developed without improvement of communications. I hope that this matter would receive the serious and immediate attention of the Government. It is not a luxury, but it is an absolute necessity.

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[Mr. K. G. Thomas]

Another difficulty of the people is non-availability of drinking water. In Ambalapuzha and Sherthalai people are drinking the sub-soil water which is found to be most injurious to health. As the members are aware Sherthalai is notorious for Filarial fever. I am thankful to Government for having included Sherthalai taluk also in the water supply schemes under budget III—47 B. But my earnest request is that the investigation should be completed in 1121 itself. In Kuttanad scarcity of drinking water is actually a very acute problem. In the dry season the water turns brakish and in the absence of anything else they are compelled to use this. Some remedy must be found and probably some scheme worked up and found successful for Alleppey might be tried for the two taluks seperately. The improvement of communications is a matter which could not be delayed. My submission is that the Sherthalai taluk must be provided with 15 miles of new roads every year. In many instances people have given up lands freely for road construction. The land that was needed for the Thuravoor Veluthulli road and the Arithinkal Mararikulam road was given away freely some considerable time ago. Many people had actually suffered hardships by cutting down their valuable cocoanut trees. When the need for roads is so great and when people give land for that freely there is no justification for delaying construction. It may be that one or two hesitating people are not giving their land freely. Against such people who dare to block the way the Machinery of the Land Acquisition Act should be applied with vigour. The Thuravoor Veluthully road is a great necessity to enable traders to transact business at the Veluthully customs. I would request the Government to take adequate steps to see that these two roads are completed during the year 1121 itself. For the construction of Thuravoor Veluthully road only one culvert and one bridge like so many we have in Alleppey is needed. For the construction of Arithinkal Mararikulam road two culverts may be necessary.

I am very happy to see that various works are included in the Post-war reconstruction programme.

Coming to some of the items included in the Post-war Reconstruction Programme (if allowed, I would call it Post-war New Construction) there is an item of Rs. 2,088 provided for soil survey scheme. Considering the very many kinds of soil in the State and the desirability of suggesting appropriate seeds that the soil would support I feel that the provision should have been considerably more. Travancore after all is an agricultural country and it is the agricultural products to a very large extent that forms the basis of our industry. It is therefore of the utmost importance that people should have an idea of the kind of seed suited for the soil.

With a very large sea coast probably it would be possible for the State eventually to export very much more than the present quantity of salt. That this has received the attention of the Government is highly

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gratifying. From your speech, Sir, it is evident that you have thought about the silk industry and I hope that steps would be taken to introduce this as a cottage industry. Some education or training is needed as it is new to the people. With regard to cardamom, although the different gardens of cardamoms are now known in New York markets with the appellation Alleppey attached, such as Alleppey Green, Alleppey Bleached, Alleppey Seed, etc., very little of it is shipped from Travancore. I was informed by some one that the humid air of the Travancore coast is unsuitable for the storing of cardamoms and that is how the trade has shifted to the other side of the Ghats where the air is drier. being a produce of Travancore it is highly necessary that some suitable place in the State should serve as the market for this highly priced commodity.

MR. V. SREEDHARAN PILLAI: The budget that has been presented before the House is so lucid that any ordinary man can understand the correct position of the finances of the State. There is a surplus of one crore and odd rupees without imposing any additional taxation on the poor people. The main income is under three headings :—(1) Excise, (2) Income tax and (3) Forests.

If I remember correct, you stated when you took charge of the administration of this country that Travancore has got two treasures, one in the sea and the other in the forests. This budget shows that that statement of yours has proved correct and we find that the income of Rs. 10 lakhs from forests has swollen to Rs. 55 lakhs. Though it may chiefly be due to war inflation, yet we have no ground.....

PRESIDENT: I may mention for the benefit of the honourable member that this is one of the few items which does not depend upon war inflation, because we are not selling at any inflated price. In fact, the price that the War Department is paying us is less than the price that we will get after the War.

MR. V. SREEDHARAN PILLAI: Then it is all the more creditable. Therefore, the income has risen entirely due to administrative talent.

The next item in which increase is noted is Excise. Excise revenue which was only Rs. 42 lakhs in 1117 has dangerously increased (Laughter). I say dangerously increased because if this increase is allowed to continue like this, no sober man will be able to walk along the road. So, I appeal that this increase should never be allowed to grow like this.

The third item is income tax. So far as my opinion is concerned, it is a very useful tax, a tax on luxuries—on super luxuries one may say. No poor man is affected by it. Nobody can be aggrieved by it. Only the rich people are affected by this taxation and they can very well afford to pay it. We will not be sorry even if this rate of taxation is fixed at the maximum.

Regarding the distribution of this income in this State, I think that the first and foremost duty of the State is to see that the 62½ millions of the population are sumptuously fed and decently clothed.

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[Mr. V. Sreedharan Pillai]

It is a sad news that the people of Travancore are not well-fed. It is due to the fact that we are not self-sufficient. At least in future we should never depend upon other countries for our food. Contagious diseases are rampant in the country and the reason for the increase in their spread is to be found in the low resisting power of the people which, in turn, is caused by the half starvation which they are subjected to. The only remedy, therefore, is to see that the people are well-fed. So long as we are dependent upon other countries, it will not be possible to feed them well.

You have very rightly allotted a sum of Rs. 16½ lakhs for the construction of a dam in South Travancore. If irrigation is South Travancore can be improved that area alone will be able to produce the food necessary for the whole State.

I am of opinion that every inch of land in the country should be cultivated. Every landholder should be induced to cultivate his land, whether wet or dry land. If he does not do it, he should be forced according to law. I would suggest that a sort of commandeering should be done. Take hold of the property and give it to the man prepared to cultivate it. Let the land of Travancore produce the food that we need. What I submit is that there should be legislation compelling owners of land who can afford the luxury of keeping their lands uncultivated to cultivate them. If not a sort of attachment should be placed on the properties and the right of cultivation should be auctioned. If any expenditure is to be incurred, it should be recovered from the owner. That is my solution to the food-problem. The owner of the land gains an income from his land and the State gains by way of increased production of foodstuffs.

There is yet another solution which I would suggest. There are very many areas in the reserve forests where paddy could be grown. You have very clearly and unambiguously stated that you are prepared to give lands on pattom in the forests for cultivation of paddy. But, Sir, it would not be possible for a man to concentrate on the cultivation of a small piece of land in the middle of a forest. My suggestion is that Government should directly cultivate those lands. It is not a question of profit, it is a question of necessity. So if there is no expectation of profit, nothing should deter the Government from undertaking it. If just 100 acres can be additionally used for production of rice, at least 15,000 paras can be produced and Rs. 22,000 can be prevented from going away from Travancore. In two ways the State will be benefited, greater self-sufficiency and more economic independence.

My request to you, Sir, is to see that the lands in the forests under the control of Government are cultivated by Government directly, or by some other agency.

Regarding intensive cultivation, I understand that there has been a report prepared by the Director of Agriculture to prevent parceling out of properties. Intensive cultivation is absolutely necessary for the greater production of food.

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I proceed to the question of representation in Government service. The fact that South Travancore is not adequately represented, I would like to stress. I may even say that it is sorely unrepresented. There are very few men in the taluks of Kalkulam and Thovala who are in the public service. My constituency is one which had a glorious past. It has produced all the native Dewans and Dalawas of the State except one. Ramayyan Dalawa was from my constituency. Raja Kesava Dasan was from my constituency. Valu Thampy Dalawa was from my constituency. Dewan Nanoo Pillai was from my constituency.

PRESIDENT: To which place do Mr. Gunamony and Mr. Kumara Das belong?

MR. V. SREEDHARAN PILLAI: But South Travancore as a whole is not well represented. My constituency in particular, is not well-represented at all, my constituency which produced all the Dalawas of the State does not have sufficient number of men in public service now. I am proud of our past but ashamed of the present.....

PRESIDENT: I understand that Mr. Satyanesan, Mr. Gunamony and Mr. Kumara Das not only come from those places but seem to be actually neighbours:

MR. V. SREEDHARAN PILLAI: There will be only one Gunamony or Satyanesan when there are hundreds of others. All that I want to say in this connection is that South Travancore is not adequately represented in Government service and my constituency is not at all well-represented. I urge that adequate representation should be given to South Travancore. I am driving at the point that regional representation also should be considered along with communal representation. That is a more acceptable ideal. In South Travancore, especially in Kalkulam and Vilavankode taluks there are two important communities namely the Chetties and the Krishnanvakakkars. There is absolutely no person in the Civil list from the Krishnanvaka and Chetties. Those communities are not at all represented even though there are many graduates and advocates in those groups. There is little representation in public service for these communities. I can even say that there is practically none. I will urge on the attention of Government in these circumstances to see that regional representation is considered along with communal representation eventhough I am not quite in favour of the principle of communal representation. I do not quite approve of the idea of communal representation, for it is an unwholesome principle which prevents the national outlook and as such I want to avoid it. I say this because this is the only time to refer to that subject.

I shall come to the most important matter namely taxation. I am quite in agreement with the principle of the present scheme which you are going to put into force and wish to see that it materialises. No poor man is affected by taxation of four cash per cent. which may even be reduced at later stages, I have heard some honourable members saying that there are practical difficulties in working out the measure,

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[Mr. V. Sreedharan Pillai]

and that the Provethicars and Tahsildars will misuse that measure. Does it mean that because some members of the staff of Government service will misuse the powers, that it should be given up? For instance, there is fire. Fire is very useful. If one misuses that, it follows from the argument just now stated, that fire should not be allowed to be used by anyone in the State. If that were the case, the world would come to nothing. Because somebody may misuse their powers it should not be said that the principle is unwholesome. The principle underlying that measure is a small basic taxation which is easy for every poor man to pay. The rich alone are taxed. Already, income tax is recovered from persons who have an agricultural income of more than five-thousand rupees. The same principle will apply. If any man misuses the powers, there are several methods to prevent the mischief being done. Therefore, what I beg to submit is, that because a person is likely to misuse a principle or system, there is no scope for rejecting that system as a whole.

Regarding the industrial policy of Government which is being followed at present, I wish to add one or two words. You have contributed much to the State for the development of industries, I mean basic Industry and they are increasing from day to day. You have been concentrating all your attention on that vital matter but there is one deplorable fact as some of my friends have suggested namely that cottage industries are not given their due attention. There are very many cottage industries that can be developed at this time of war. Every house can be converted into an industrial unit. The handloom weavers are going about for yarn. Why not Government take up the responsibility of providing cotton to every house and see that the ladies and men that remain there are made to spin. If that is done Government could save us from starvation. After all they have to invest only about one or two lakhs of rupees. If that is done every house can be converted into an industrial unit and all those that are without any work now can do something. They need not spend away their time in idle fancies, brooding over the invitables of the law of karma. It will bring about lasting good to the people of the State.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANA PILLAI: Sir, the Budget presented by the Financial Secretary for the year 1121 presents many happy features, The Dewan President while clarifying the Budget has certainly been very optimistic and judging from the results of the past 9 years, there need not be any fear in the minds of any honest citizen who is prepared to look at the whole thing without Jaundiced vision for suspicion or distrust. It is very gratifying to note that our revenues would exceed 6 crores. Some of the very satisfactory features of the Budget are the following: (i) There are no new taxation proposals; (ii) With the object of equalising the burden of taxation and mainly to afford relief to the agriculturists, a change in the present system of land assessment is proposed, a system to introduce which many Administrators in the past felt great trepidation. Now that it has been fully realised that the agriculturist stands in need of relief

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and that it cannot be delayed any longer, Government have to be sincerely thanked for having come with this measure of reform at a very opportune moment, Government's assurance that the land revenue will stand permanently at about 25 lakhs which is only 50 percent of the present land tax is the greatest assurance that can be given to an agrarian country and I am sure that there will be agrarian contentment and agrarian prosperity as the result of this reform which has been proposed by Government. A careful study of the Budget shows that all the commercial and industrial schemes started and worked by Government and those sponsored by them have proved themselves to be financial successes. Those who came to scoff have now remained to pray.

Government have wisely adopted an extensive and intensive industrialisation policy and have themselves invested more than 50 percent of the capital required in many concerns. This is as it should be. This is the only policy which can bring revenues to the State in the future which in turn will keep the people happy, contented and prosperous. There is no point in saying that investors from outside Travancore should not be allowed to take shares in our concerns. By all means Travancoreans should be enabled to get all the shares if they apply for the same ; by all means they may be enabled to subscribe for the shares which they are willing to subscribe. But on the other hand if nobody is willing to come forward, if nobody is prepared to take the initiative to start the enterprise at the same time if nobody is allowed to come into the State and develop our industries which would produce result generally advantageous to the whole country, if such kind of tactics are continued, that act is the very negation of the principle of industrialisation.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: May I ask the honourable member whether he is aware that crores and crores of rupees of British Indian money has been invested in Travancore shares during the past two or three years?

MR. M. L. JANARDHANA PILLAI: That is exactly my point. It will be conducive to better efficiency and better soundness of industrial concerns, if experienced businessmen outside Travancore are also invited, I say invited, advisedly to take shares in such concerns. For instance if Messrs. Darrahs had not invested their money, if they had not introduced the industry coir mats and mattings and coir yarns and trade in both of about which amounts to six crores of Rupees in a year even during pre-war times. I ask how can our people know about that industry at all? On account of association with those people we have learnt the trade and earned money for our State, Wherefrom could Travancoreans would have learned that trade except by this method I ask. Would there have been any in our country to know and find out how to utilise those valuable materials and produce excellent results which have made our country prosperous and found employment for several thousands. By honourable friend MR. Bhaskar pointed out how in Quilon there were European pioneers in starting the tile factory and thereby brought into existence a large number of

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first class tile factories where the Indians have invested very large sums and they own the business almost exclusively. But for the assistance of outsiders, in the early periods Travancoreans would never have been able to develop our industries in the manner we have been able to do. Just before the year 1914 the proportion of the interest of Europeans in the coir mats and matting industry was over 90 percent and ten percent with Travancoreans whereas today what is the position. It is 56 percent with Travancoreans and 44 percent with Europeans, Many large enterprises are owned by us in partnership with foreigners, This is for the purpose of learning their commercial methods and business organisations and to bring in cheap capital. In my experience, the association of Travancoreans with businessmen from outside Travancore will be very valuable and cheap finance will be available for all our industries. In due time our people may find courage to invest money in enterprises and develop our industries. So in my opinion, we should welcome and invite experienced industrialists and financiers taking shares in our industrial concerns, our Government subscribing for more than 50 percent shares and having a predominant voice in the concerns. Sir, there should be rapid industrialisation not only at the present time but for a long period to come. At the same time, our markets abroad have to be tackled and we have to whip up our existing productions to meet new demands and new conditions. All these require quick despatch of business, correct understanding of all aspects of our problems and expeditious disposal of all matters. The agency to deal with all these problems is the Secretariat in Travancore. I am afraid, Sir, I have to point out that agency had not been hundred percent efficient in dealing with many a problem. For instance, Sir, you took great pains and secured orders to this country in 1944 for supplying coir goods to the Supply Department to the tune of 40 lakhs. The volume of trade we got was immense. Yet what was our experience. At every stage, there was considerable delay in the Secretariat. Bills to the extent of several lakhs were prepared and sent to the Secretariat merely for signature of the chief secretary as he alone was competent to sign the bill. Bills would not move. Queries will not be answered. Doubts will not be cleared. So much so, Bills were delayed in Travancore Secretariat for weeks and months before they were signed and submitted to the Government of India. I am afraid that delays that were experienced in the Secretariat were for merely signing of bills took weeks and months and consequently that resulted in huge loss to the trade of the country. Telegrams, reminders and telephones produced no effect. Even when remittances were actually received from Bombay, it took several days before these remittances reached Alleppey. There were inexcusable delays in these matters during the years 1944 and 1945, so much so the suppliers lost very heavy sums as bank interest and even refused to supply at one stage. Sir, very recently, we had an experience of an American steamer waiting at Cochin to load cargo. We required the issue of release certificate from the Secretariat.

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Ordinarily, it would have easily taken a week the least for obtaining the order. But if that steamer had sailed the suppliers would have lost the opportunity of shipping cargo worth Rs. 10 lakhs. We approached the Dewan direct and secured the relief certificate within 24 hours. Unless the Secretariat is prepared to carry out the good intentions and proposals promptly and without undue delay, many of our excellent commercial schemes are bound to be very adversely affected. I fully hope and trust that this level of efficiency of the Secretariat will be maintained and improved, as the Secretariat is the institution which has to carry out the intentions and orders of a progressive administration.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPPN PILLAI: Sir, a question—

PRESIDENT: The honourable member does not yield his place.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANA PILLAI: Sir, I said just now how many of the useful and profitable projects provided for in the Budget are intended for the benefit of our country. They are certainly in line with the progressive methods adopted by any Government. The funds set apart by Government for educational improvements, those are marked for the carrying on of researches in the University, the proposals to get the right type of men for the development of scientific researches all these endeavours go to show that side by side with providing material benefit to the people of the State, there is the endeavour for the development of scientific knowledge and intellectual advancement in the country. We should keep abreast of the times in order to cope with new situations arising in the country during the postwar period.

Sir, there is one section of the people in this House a very small section in this House indeed, who cannot see anything good in the present administration. The gentlemen belonging to that section cannot see any good in the present Budget. According to them, everything is wrong in the Budget. They are not ashamed to broadcast untruths and half truths for the consumption of ignorant masses. Their sole occupation is to disseminate incorrect statements and foment trouble between capital and labour, spread doctrines of communism and misrepresent Government. They cannot find a single good measure passed by Government or one good provision made in the Budget. The progress of our commerce and industries which could be appreciated by unbiassed people far and near, and the press all over India, some of which are not at all friendless or partial to the administration, could not be understood by them. The present administration has not found favour in their hands. They think that everything done by the administration is wrong. The only form of Government which would please them is "Responsible Government" and of which they know precious little. Their hatred of the present administration is all that they want to evince. That is the only slogan which they are not tired of repeating and I am very sorry for them.

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[Mr. M. L. Janardhana Pillai.]

Sir, this country which we all dearly love and which we wish to see progress from year to year in every direction is grateful to you for the success that has attended your efforts, for placing Travancore on the map as a State which is progressively and continually prospering in every direction under the fostering care of His Gracious Highness the Maharaja and under your wise and carefui guidance.

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*): As the time at my disposal is very limited I shall deal with only certain salient points. First I shall deal with public health. From the budget it can be seen that about Rs. 5 lakhs has been set apart for the reorganisation of medical institutions. But my humble submission is that any amount of reorganisation of medical institutions or any amount of legislation on public health will not improve the health of the people because, as my learned friend Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai has stated, what the poor people want is food. The Diet survey conducted in the State will show that the people of the State are not getting food which are sufficient for their health. The food which they get are quantitatively insufficient and qualitatively unsatisfactory. Again, it can be seen that any amount of education in Public Health, and any amount of lectures in public health, can not improve the health of the people unless we provide them with sufficient quantity of food.

Again you will see, Sir, that the industrialisation of the country, the agricultural advancement of the country; these two cannot improve matters because the keen competition, as my learned friend Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai has stated, which we have to face from outside world when war is over, will show how far our industrialisation will succeed. We know that the rice which we get now is only sufficient to meet 40 per cent. of our requirements. By improving our irrigation facilities it may be possible to get food which we require in Travancore now. Yet, my humble submission is that these cannot improve matters. If you will go through the census of 1901 it can be seen that there were only 2957156 people and according to the census of 1941 it is 6,070,018. So, the population of the State has doubled. Again, if you will take into consideration the census of 1931 and 1941 you will see that there is an increase of 19·1 in Travancore whereas there is only an increase of 12.1 in Hyderabad, 11.1 in Mysore and in the adjoining province of Madras there was only an increase of 11·6. So it can be seen that with whatever speed our industrialisation may develop, with whatever speed our agricultural enterprises may develop, it cannot keep pace with the development of population. My friend Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai stated all these things. But he has not stated any remedy for it. I may suggest that birth control clinics may be instituted in all hospitals and dispensaries with a view to impart instruction on birth control and also sterilise all persons who are suffering from infectious diseases and who are defectives.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: സന്താനനിയന്ത്രണംകൊണ്ട് ജനസംഖ്യയുടെ വർദ്ധനവിനെ കാര്യക്ഷമമായവിധം നിയന്ത്രിക്കാൻ കഴിയുമെന്ന് മെമ്പർ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

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MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: No. My friend Mr. Chazhikattu Joseph was not patient to hear my argument. If he had done that I am sure I could have convinced him that it is absolutely necessary. My friend Mr. Chazhikkattu Joseph will remember that there are a number of females in the State who are not fit, even to conceive.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: I do not know it. (Laughter).

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: I ask him, is he not aware of a large percentage of females in the State who are suffering from tuberculosis.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: I am not aware of it.

PRESIDENT: I do not think that mutual interlocution of this kind will help the conceptability of females.

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: So there are certain diseases which are hereditary.

PRESIDENT: I do not want to interrupt the honourable member, A certain gentleman came to me who is doing some propaganda in this line and he has told me that he got Rs. 2 or 3 thousand worth of these appliances. His name is Mr. Krishnan Nair. He has got large consignment of these appliances. He is selling them all around.

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: The question is whether we must improve the health of the people. Any how we must get rid of these people who are suffering from tuberculosis and other diseases. Until we eradicate these diseases we cannot get beautiful young children in Travancore. This question has been engaging the attention of socialists and economists. Unless and until we introduce this birth control in the State, it cannot be possible to improve the health of the people.

PRESIDENT: I do not want to express any opinion on that matter because I have not yet come to any definite decision on it. All those states which set up this programme as a definite item in the national career, those including America, France and Europe are now going back and starting subsidy of child birth.

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: I was tempted to argue this point because there is a place in my constituency called Vakkom, and I brought this fact to the notice of the Health Officer, that there are some houses where there are lepers. It can be seen that the children of those lepers are also lepers. It is a place of three or four square miles in extent. We can see so many lepers there. It is to invite the attention of the House to that fact that I have said this.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Is leprosy a hereditary disease?

PRESIDENT: It is not a herditary disease, but it is an infectious disease. That is why it is advised to seggregate those people.

MR. K. SUKUMARAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether he is aware of the recent divorce case in England?

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: There was a suggestion from one section of the House that the Public Service of the State has deteriorated. My humble suggestion is that I have to differ from the honourable member who made that statement.

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MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: Has not the Dewan President himself said so?

MR. KADAKKAVUR P. MADHAVAN: What the Dewan President has stated is that the inferior services in the public service was not functioning properly, if I remember correct. What the State Congress want is that Travancore must be ruled by Travancoreans, the Government must be run by Travancoreans, and if they say that the public service in the State is not efficient, then how can it be entrusted to Travancoreans. We know that very eminent persons from Travancore are adorning as heads of departments in Travancore. My submission is that the importation of officers from outside is considered as a defamation of the people of the State who have got an ancient tradition of heroism that is chivalry a combination of beauty and manliness. I ask my learned friend who stated that the public service in the State has deteriorated, are we efficient enough to run the administration when it is entrusted to us? When the Government is entrusted to us we must select our own persons. Our own people are the heads of many departments and they are running those departments to the entire satisfaction of the people, of the State and to their subordinates and also to the head of the administration. In the last budget session this very same bench stated that only persons of 53 can be entertained into service in the Registration Department because they were afraid of corruption. Then it was asked by you Sir, whether it is advisable to import persons from outside. My submission is that by questioning the efficiency of Travancoreans who are now at the head of the departments we are surely attacking ourselves. We must not attack ourselves. There is no communal difference. We are all one. We are all united. So my submission is that you must not make such statements. We must have our own heads of departments. We must not have foreigners as heads of our departments. We can have our say with them. We can have our grievances redressed through them.

One of the honourable members said that there is no government responsive to the people. My submission is that it is wrong. The first legislature in Travancore was created in 1888 by a Royal Proclamation. That was the first legislature in an Indian State. We know the progress that that legislature has made during all these years. We are given the control over the budget. We are given the power to initiate legislation and we have got power to vote down demands. So my submission is that we have got a Government which has got a characteristic of a responsive government, if not responsible government.

I will be failing in my duty, and I will be tried for dereliction in the court of final appeal if I do not state before this House the real wants of the people of my constituency. The people are eagerly waiting and desiring to have some constitutional change. You may call it Responsible Government or any other form of government. We want a government which is responsible to the people of the State.

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People have a desire to have a government which will be run by their accredited leaders, people in whom they have confidence. Therefore my humble suggestion is that it is necessary to invert some form of reform We see that Travancore is the first State in inaugurating a legislature. We see that Travancore State is the first to introduce Temple Entry Proclamation.

Travancore stood first in abolishing death sentence. Taking into consideration all things, I request you, Sir, to see that in the introduction of reforms Travancore stand first and foremost among the Indian States.

MR. K. R NARAYANAN : സർ, "സാമ്പത്തികമായ ഒരു പ്ലാനോടുകൂടിയല്ലാ ഒരു ധനകാര്യമെംമ്പർ മന്ത്രിസഭയിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ അദ്ദേഹം ആ സ്ഥാനം ഭരിക്കുവാൻ കൊള്ളുന്നതാത്തവനാണെന്നു ലോകം കണക്കാക്കും." ഇതു് പ്രസിദ്ധസാമ്പത്തികവിശാരദനായ മി. എച്ചു്. ജി വെൽസിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായമാണു്. ഈ മാനദണ്ഡംവച്ചു ഫിനാൻസു സിക്കിട്ടറി അവർകളുടെ പ്രസംഗം അളക്കണമെന്നും, വിമർശനം ചെയ്യണമെന്നും എനിക്കാഗ്രഹമുണ്ടെങ്കിലും പരിമിതമായ സമയം അതിനു അനുവദിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു അതിപ്രധാനങ്ങളായ രണ്ടു കാര്യത്തിൽ മാത്രം വിമർശനം കേറീകരിക്കാം എന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. ഒന്നാമതായി സെറാൽമെൻറുനിരുത്തി, ബേസിക്കുടാക്സേഷൻ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുകയും, കാർഷികാദായനികുതി വികസിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ തീരുമാനിക്കുകയും ചെയ്ത ടാക്സേഷൻ സമ്പ്രദായത്തെക്കുറിച്ചാണു്. രണ്ടാമതു് കാർഷികവും വ്യാവസായികവുമായ പോസ്റ്റുവാർ റീകൺസ്ട്രക്ഷൻ പദ്ധതിയെക്കുറിച്ചു്; ആ പദ്ധതിയിൽ ഗ്രാമങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള സ്ഥാനങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു സംഗ്രഹമായി പ്രതിപാദിക്കുവാനാണു് ഞാനാഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നതു്. സെറിൽമെൻറു നിരുത്തി ബേസിക്ക ടാക്കേസഷൻ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയ ആദ്യത്തെ രാജ്യം ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറാണു്. ശാസ്ത്രീയമായ ഈ ടാക്സേഷൻ സമ്പ്രദായത്തിനു പല ഇൻഡ്യൻ പ്രാവിൻസുകളേയും, നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളേയും, നാം പിന്നിലാക്കുന്നു. അനവധിലക്ഷം പാപങ്ങളുടെ, ദരിദ്രനാരായണന്മാരുടെ, നാമധേയത്തിനു് ഈ പരിഷ്കാരത്തിനു ഞാൻ സ്വാഗതം ആശംസിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ പരിഷ്കാരം ഈ നികുതി നിഷ്കൃഷ്ടം നിരുത്തുന്നു ഒരു പരിഷ്കാരത്തിന്റെ മുന്നോടിയായി തീരുവാൻ സംഗതിയാകുമെന്നു പ്രത്യാശിക്കാം. കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയിൽ ഒരു വികസനം വരുത്തുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ. ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ വ്യക്തമായ കാർഷികാദായനികുതി, ഒറീസ്സായിലും, ബെറാഡാ

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[Mr. K. R. Narayanan.]

യിലും നടപ്പിലിരിക്കുന്നു. കൊച്ചിയിൽ പരോക്ഷമായ കാർഷികാദായ നികുതി, ഇങ്കംടാക്സിന്റെ റേറു നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതോടുകൂടി വസൂലാക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. കാർഷികാദായനികുതി, നിശ്ചിതമായ ഒരു വരവിനു മുകളിലുള്ള വരോട്ട വസൂൽ ചെയ്യുവാൻ ബോംബേ വസതിക്കാർ അനുകൂലികളാണു. കാർഷികാദായ നികുതിക്കനുകൂലമായ ഒഴുക്കാണു ലോകത്താകെയുള്ളതു്. എന്നാലും കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെ ആക്ഷേപിക്കുന്നവർ ചിലരുണ്ട്. വമ്പിച്ച കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങളുടെ ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരായ മൂലധന നാഗരീകതക്കാർ. കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. സാമാന്യജനങ്ങൾ കാർഷികാദായ നികുതിയെ സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്നു. രണ്ടാമത്തെ സെറുകാർ മഹാഭൂരിപക്ഷവും, ആദ്യത്തെ സെറുകർ വെറും ന്യൂനപക്ഷവുമാകുന്നു. ആംഗ്ലോഅമേരിക്കൻ ധനതത്വശാസ്ത്രത്തിന്റെ പിതാവെന്നു പറയാവുന്ന ആദം സ്മിത്തിന്റെ സുപ്രസിദ്ധമായ നാലു നികുതിശാസ്ത്രസിദ്ധാന്തങ്ങളിൽ ഒന്നാമത്തേതു്, കഴിവുള്ളവർ അവരവരുടെ കഴിവുപോലെ-എബിലിറ്റിപോലെ സ്റ്റേറ്റിൽനിന്നു അനുവദിക്കുന്ന സുഖസൗകര്യങ്ങൾപോലെ, നികുതികൊടുക്കണം എന്നാണെന്നു്, സർ സ്റ്റാന്പിന്റെ The Fundumental Principles of Taxation in the light of modern Developments എന്ന പുസ്തകത്തിൽ വ്യവഹരിക്കുന്നു. കാർഷികാദായ നികുതിയെ നിരൂപണം ചെയ്യുന്ന മാന്യന്മാർ, ഈ തത്വമനുസരിച്ചുള്ള നികുതി നാം കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു ചിന്തിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇതുയും ഈ നികുതി കുറവുള്ള ഒരു ഭൂവിഭാഗം, ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ ഇല്ലെന്നുമാത്രമല്ലാ ഭൂലോകത്തു ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തുമില്ലാ. നികുതി കൂട്ടുമ്പോൾ നാം നോക്കുവാനുള്ളതു ഒന്നുമാത്രമാണു്. നികുതിപിരിക്കുന്ന ഭരണാധികാരികൾ, കൂടുതൽ കൂടുതൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ സുഖസൗകര്യങ്ങൾ നോക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ, അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുള്ള പദ്ധതികളുണ്ടോ, ഇതിനുത്തരം "ഉണ്ടെ"ന്നാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരു നികുതി നിരൂപണവും നീതികരിക്കാവുന്നതല്ലാ. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവർമെന്റു വരുത്തിയ ഈ ടാക്സേഷൻ സമ്പ്രദായത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു്, വ്യക്തവും ഖണ്ഡിതവുമായ ഒരഭിപ്രായം പറയുവാൻ സ്റ്റേറുകാൺഗ്രസ്സുപാർട്ടി മടികാണിച്ചതിൽ ഞാൻ അത്ഭുതപ്പെടുന്നു. പുരോഗമനപരമായ വീക്ഷണഗതിക്കാരാണെന്നു അഭിമാനിക്കുന്ന അഥവാ അവകാശപ്പെടുന്ന ഒരു സംഘടനയാണു് സ്റ്റേറുകാൺഗ്രസ്സു്. അവർ നിലകൊള്ളുന്നതു കർഷകനും തൊഴിലാളിക്കുംവേണ്ടിയാണു്. കർഷകരേയും തൊഴിലാളികളേയും ബഹുദൂരം ബാധിക്കുന്ന ഈ കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെ അസന്ദിഗ്ദ്ധമായി കാൺഗ്രസ്സുകാർ അനുകൂലിക്കാത്തതു്. പുരോഗമനമാണോ, അധോഗതി

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യാണോ എന്ന അവർതന്നെ തീരുമാനിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. മി. മാത്യു അതിന്റെ പ്രായോഗികവൈഷമ്യങ്ങൾ ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിച്ചതല്ലാതെ, കാർഷികാദായ നികുതിയെ അനുകൂലിക്കുകയോ. പ്രതികൂലിച്ചവരുടെ വാദമുഖങ്ങളെ അഭിമുഖീകരിക്കുകയോ ചെയ്തില്ല. മി. മാത്യുവിന്റെ പ്രസംഗം "കുന്നിൽതടഞ്ഞപുഴപോലെ കുഴങ്ങിമദ്ധ്യേ നിന്നില്ല കുന്നൽ മിഴിയൊട്ടു നടന്നുമില്ലാ" എന്നമട്ടിൽ അവസാനിപ്പിച്ചു. മെമ്പർ ഉദയഭാനു, ശങ്കരനാരായണൻതമ്പി, ഇവർ ദീർഘമായി പ്രസംഗിച്ചുവെങ്കിലും അതിപ്രധാനമായ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ അവരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം പറയാതെ അവരും അങ്ങിനെ കൗശലത്തിൽ കടന്നുപോയി. കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെ അനുകൂലിച്ചാൽ പുറത്തുള്ള മൂലധനനാഗരികതക്കാരാകൺഗ്രസ്സുകാരെ എതുക്കും. ഇതു നല്ലതുപോലെ മനസ്സിലാക്കികൊണ്ടാണ് ഈ ബുദ്ധിമാന്മാർ വലിയ മത്സ്യം വരുമ്പോൾ കൊക്ക് കണ്ണടയ്ക്കുന്നതുപോലെ, കണ്ണടച്ചു തന്ത്രത്തിൽ കടന്നു പോയതു്.

MR. A P. UDAYABHANU : In the last Assemby we supported the proposition.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : അതു എന്റെ വാദത്തിന്റെ ശക്തി കുറച്ചുകൂടി കൂട്ടുന്നു. ഇതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇക്കൊല്ലം പിൻതാങ്ങുവാൻ കുറച്ചു കൂടി ചുമതല വരുന്നു.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം സ്റ്റേറ്റുകൺഗ്രസ്സു പാർട്ടി, ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു നിശ്ചയം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചതു്, മെമ്പർ ഓർക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : മി. ഉദയഭാനുവിന്റെ ചോദ്യത്തിനു പറഞ്ഞ മറുപടിയല്ലാതെ മറ്റൊന്നും ഇതിനു എനിക്കു പറയുവാനില്ലാ. പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യവുമില്ലാ.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : ഇക്കൊല്ലം ഒരു കട്ട് മോഷൻ ടേബിൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള വിവരം മെമ്പറിനു അറിയാം.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : അതുമറിയാം. പൊതു വിമർശനത്തിൽ ഈ പ്രധാന വിഷയത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു് ഒന്നും പറയാതെ മാറിയതിനു ഇതൊന്നും സമാധാനമാകുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നില്ല. കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം ഞങ്ങളവതരിപ്പിച്ച ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിലെ തത്വം ഇക്കൊല്ലം ഗവണ്മെന്റു അംഗീകരിച്ചതിൽ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു എന്നൊരു വാചകം പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ, അവരുടെ ആത്മാർത്ഥതയെ ചോദ്യംചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യം വരികയില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഒരു പാർട്ടി എന്ന നിലയ്ക്കു് അതു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നുള്ള എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം മാറുവാൻ ഈ ചോദ്യ

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ങ്ങളൊന്നും മതിയാകുന്നില്ലാ. നാഷണൽ പ്ലാനിംഗ് കമ്മിറ്റിക്കു ജവഹരിലാൽനെഹറു അയച്ച ഒരു കത്തിൽ സാധാരണക്കാരുടെ നികുതിഭാരം കുറയ്ക്കുന്ന ഒരു പ്ലാൻ അല്ലാതെ, മറ്റൊരു പ്ലാനും, പ്രായോഗികമാവുകയില്ലെന്നു പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിരുന്നതായി ഞാനോർക്കുന്നു. അദ്ദേഹത്തിൽ രാഷ്ട്രീയ ജീവിതം കടങ്ങുന്നതുതന്നെ ഒരു ജില്ലയിലെ നികുതിഭാരം കുറയ്ക്കുവാനുള്ള പ്രചരണവേലയിൽ പങ്കെടുത്തു ജയിൽ വാസം വരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ് കാൺഗ്രസ്സിന്റെ അനിഷേദ്ധ്യനേതാവായ ജവഹരിലാലിനു നികുതി വിഷയത്തിലുള്ള തുറന്ന അഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾ തുറന്നു പിൻതാങ്ങുവാൻ, ഉറച്ചതിനു നില്ക്കുവാൻ, നമ്മുടെ കാൺഗ്രസ്സുകാർ അമാന്തം കാണിക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ, ആ അമാന്തത്തിനിടയിൽ സ്ഥാപിതതാല്പര്യക്കാരുടെ അടിയൊഴുക്കുകൾ ശക്തിയായി കുത്തിപ്പായുന്നുണ്ടായിരിക്കണം.

ഇന്നലയും ഇന്നും കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെ സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്ത മാന്യന്മാർ, നികുതി പരിവിധിയും, റേറു നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിലും, വരാനിടയുള്ള ചില പ്രായോഗികവൈഷമ്യങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു പ്രതിപാദിച്ചു. നികുതി നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിൽ പ്രവൃത്തിയാരന്മാരിൽനിന്നു വരാവുന്ന ശല്യങ്ങൾ നിരവധിയാണെന്ന് ഞാനും സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ പരിഷ്കാരം മാറ്റിവെയ്ക്കണമോ? ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ആവശ്യമുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ദിവാൻപ്രസിഡൻറു അവർകളും സഭയോടഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചു, എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. ശ്രീധരൻപിള്ള പരിഷ്കാരത്തോടനുകൂലിച്ചുവെങ്കിലും വ്യക്തമായ മാർഗ്ഗനിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളൊന്നും ചെയ്തില്ലാ. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ എനിക്കുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശം ചുരുക്കത്തിൽ പ്രതിപാദിക്കാം. നമ്മുടെ പട്ടാദാരന്മാരിൽ, സു ഠ ശതമാനവും, ബേസിക്കുടാക്സ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുമ്പോൾ അതിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടുപോകും. ബാക്കിശേഷിക്കുന്ന നാല്പതു ശതമാനത്തെയാണ് കാർഷികാദായനികുതി ബാധിക്കുന്നതു്. നാല്പതു ശതമാനം വളരെ കൂടുതലായി ഞാൻ കണക്കാക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഖ്യയാണ്. ഇങ്ങിനെ വരുന്ന കർഷകർ ഒരു പകുതിയിൽ മുപ്പതിനും നാല്പതിനും മദ്ധ്യേവരുമെന്നുവെയ്ക്കുക. ഇതു അതരെല്ലാമാണെന്നും, അവക്കെത്തുവരവു കൊല്ലത്തിലുണ്ടാകുമെന്നും, കൃഷിയാവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു എത്ര ചെലവുവരുമെന്നും മറും നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിനു ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിയുണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. ഈ കമ്മിറ്റിയിൽ തഹശീൽ പ്രവൃത്തിയാർ മുതലായ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരും, മുൻസിപ്പൽ പ്രസിഡൻറന്മാർ, നിയമസഭാമെംബറന്മാർ മുതലായ

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അനുദ്യോസ്ഥന്മാരും, തൊഴിലാളി സംഘടനകളുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവയുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളും അംഗങ്ങളായിരിക്കണം. അവരുടെ അഭിപ്രായത്തിൽ വരവും ചെലവും ആറാദായവും തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തി റേറു നിശ്ചയിച്ചാൽ പ്രവർത്തിയാരന്മാരിൽനിന്നും പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്ന ശല്യത്തിൽനിന്ന് നമുക്കു ബഹുഭൂരിപക്ഷം രക്ഷപ്രാപിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ രണ്ടും മൂന്നും പകുതികൾ ചേർത്ത് കമ്മറിറികളുണ്ടാക്കാവുന്നതാണ്.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH : അഞ്ചുകൊല്ലത്തിലൊരിക്കൽ റേറു ക്രിപ്പപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന എന്തെങ്കിലും വ്യവസ്ഥ മെമ്പറിന്നു പറയാനുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : ഇങ്കം ടാക്സ് സാധാരണ ക്രിപ്പപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു ഓരോകൊല്ലവുമാണ്. മി. ജോസഫ് ചോദിച്ചതുപോലെ ഒരിക്കൽ ക്രിപ്പപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന റേറു അഞ്ചു കൊല്ലക്കാലത്തേയ്ക്ക് നീണ്ടു നില്ക്കണമെങ്കിൽ, ഉല്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ വിലക്രമാതെയും, കുറയാതേയുമിരിക്കണം. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു സ്റ്റെഡിമാക്കറു അസാദ്ധ്യമാണ്. എങ്കിലും അതിനൊരു മാർഗ്ഗം എനിക്കു നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുവാൻ കഴിയും. പന്ത്രണ്ടു കൊല്ലത്തെ ഉല്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ വില കണക്കാക്കി, അവറേജുവില കണ്ടുപിടിച്ച്, ആറാദായം തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തി, റേറു ക്രിപ്പപ്പെടുത്താവുന്നതാണ്. അതിലും ചില അനീതികൾ വന്നുപോകും. വിലയിടിവുവരുമ്പോൾ റേറു മാറുവാൻ കഴിയുകയില്ലെന്നുള്ളതാണ് ആ അനീതി.

കൊല്ലംതോറും പ്രവർത്തിയാരന്മാർ കാണിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന അനീതിയാണോ, വിലയുടെ മാറ്റംകൊണ്ടുണ്ടാവുന്ന അനീതിയാണോ, സഹിക്കേണ്ടതെന്നു നാം ചിന്തിക്കേണ്ടതാകുന്നു. മൂന്നു കൊല്ലത്തിലൊരിക്കൽ റേറു ഫിക്സ് ചെയ്യുന്ന ഒരു നയമെടുത്താൽ രണ്ടിന്റേയും മദ്ധ്യേനിന്നു 'അച്ചുന്നം കുചന്നം' വളരെ അന്തരം വരാത്ത ഒരു മാർഗ്ഗമുണ്ടാക്കാമെന്നാണു എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ നമ്മുടെ വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയൻസുകളെക്കുറിച്ചും വില്ലേജ് പഞ്ചായത്തുകളെക്കുറിച്ചും രണ്ടു വാക്കു പറയുവാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ താലൂക്കുകച്ചേരിക്കാരുടെ നിർദ്ദേശംകൂത്തു, കേവലം നിർജ്ജീവമായികഴിയുന്ന വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയൻസുകൾ, ജനകീയപുരോഗതിയുടെ മുമ്പിൽ അങ്ങിനെ വിലങ്ങടിച്ചു കിടക്കുകയാണ്. വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയൻസുകൾ, അധികാരങ്ങൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചും, പരിഷ്കരിച്ചും, രാജ്യമാസകലം പ്രചരിപ്പിച്ചു ജനങ്ങളെ ശരിക്കു നിയന്ത്രണത്തിൽ വരുത്തണം. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയൻസുകൾക്കു, ടാക്സ് നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ, ഗവർമെന്റിനെ സാരമായി സഹായിക്കുവാൻ കഴിയും. പോസ്റ്റു വാർ റീകൺസ്ട്രു

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[Mr. K. R. Narayanan]

ക്ഷൻപദ്ധതികൾക്കും പല സഹായങ്ങളും ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഈ വില്ലേജ് സംഘടനകൾക്കു കഴിവുണ്ടാകും. അതുകൊണ്ട് എല്ലാപകുതികളിലും വില്ലേജ യൂണിയൻസുകൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുവാനും ഉള്ളതു ജനകീയമാക്കിവിപുലപ്പെടുത്തുവാനും, ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനോടഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു. ഈ അഭ്യർത്ഥനയുടെ ഗ്രാമങ്ങൾ ജനകീയസംഘടനകൾവഴി കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ചു ഭരണകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ സഹകരിക്കുവാൻ കൂടുതൽ സൗകര്യമുണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഈ അഭ്യർത്ഥനയുടെ—അർത്ഥം ശരിക്കു ഗവൺമെൻറു ധരിക്കുകയും, അതുപോലെ ഗവൺമെൻറു അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും ചെയ്താൽ, നാം ഇന്നുള്ള പല പ്രയാസങ്ങളേയും ജയിച്ചു, ഭാവിയിലുണ്ടാകാവുന്ന പല പ്രതിബന്ധങ്ങളേയും ജയിച്ചു, പുരോഗമിക്കുകതന്നെ ചെയ്യും. ഈ പതനന്തിൽ ഒരു കാര്യംകൂടി പറയുവാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഇന്നല്ലെങ്കിൽ നാളെ ഇഡ്യൻപ്രോവിൻസുകളിൽ, ഭരണപരമായ വികാസം—രാഷ്ട്രീയമായ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം ഉണ്ടാകും. ഈ രാഷ്ട്രീയചലനം ഇഡ്യൻപ്രോവിൻസുകളിൽ സംഭവിക്കുമ്പോൾ, അതിൻെറ അല നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിലും അടിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതു തീർച്ചയാണ്. വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയൻസുകൾ പരിഷ്ക്കരിച്ചു ശരിക്കു തടയിനിംഗ് കൊടുത്താൽ അതു ജനകീയ സമ്പ്രദായത്തിലെയ്ക്കു, നമ്മെ ബഹുദൂരം വഴിതെളിക്കുമെന്നാണ് എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം. ഭരണകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ജനങ്ങളെ കൂടുതൽ കൂടുതൽ അടുപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടിയാണ് വില്ലേജ് യൂണിയൻസുകൾ സ്ഥാപിച്ചതെന്നുള്ള അങ്ങയുടെ പ്രസംഗം ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ഞാൻ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുകയും, എന്നാൽ അതു് അതിൻെറ ശരിയായ കൃത്യമോ കൃത്യത്തിൻെറ അംശമെങ്കിലുമോ ചെയ്യുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള പരമാർത്ഥം ആവർത്തിച്ചുറിയിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു. പോസ്റ്റുവാർ റീ കൺസ്ട്രക്ഷൻ പദ്ധതിയിൽ ഏറ്റവും പ്രാധാന്യം അർഹിക്കുന്നതു്, വ്യവസായീകരണമാണ്. ഇൻഡ്യയ്ക്കാകെ ഒരു വ്യാവസായികഛായ്വു് വരുന്നതെന്തും, വരുത്തണമെന്നഭിലാഷമുണ്ടെന്നും കാണാവുന്നതാണ്. ബോംബേപ്ലാൻ, പതിനഞ്ചുവർഷംകൊണ്ടു കർഷകരുടെ ആദായം ഇരട്ടിയാക്കുവാൻമാത്രനിർദ്ദേശം ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ, വ്യവസായംവഴിയുള്ള ആദായം അഞ്ചിരട്ടിയാക്കുവാനാണ് മാത്രനിർദ്ദേശം കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. ഫാൻറസ്റ്റ്—ൽ ഒരാൾക്കു വ്യവസായത്തിൽനിന്നു ഫസ്റ്റ്ക്ലാസ്സായ വരവുണ്ടെന്നും, അതു്, ഫാൻസ്റ്റ—ൽ സെക്കൻഡ് ക്ലാസ്സായാക്കണമെന്നും ഫാൻ ശതമാനം കൂടുതൽ ബാംബേ പദ്ധതിക്കാർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു. ആ അവസരത്തിൽ ഒരാളിൻെറ കാർഷികാദായം ഉയരുന്നതു ഫാർ—ൻ,

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ഫാ ഫാ ഠ ശ്രപാ എന്ന നിലയിൽ നൽകുന്ന ശതമാനം മാത്രമാകുന്നു. ബോംബേപ്ലാൻ ഒന്നും രണ്ടും ഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും ഈ വ്യാവസായികപുരോഗതിയുടെ സ്ഥിതിവിവരക്കണക്കുകൾ ശരിക്കു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നതാണ്. ജവഹർലാൽ നെഹ്റു നാഷണൽ പ്ലാനിംഗ് കമ്മറിക്കായച്ചു കൊടുത്ത കത്തിൽ വ്യവസായീകരണംകൊണ്ടല്ലാതെ ഇൻഡ്യയെ ശരിക്കു സമുദ്ധരിക്കുവാൻ സാദ്ധ്യമല്ലെന്നും കാർഷികവും, വ്യാവസായികവുമായ പ്രഗതികൾക്കു ക്രമേണ പ്രാധാന്യം കൊടുക്കണമെന്നും എഴുതിയിരുന്നു, അദ്ദേഹം ഈയ്യിടെ ബാംബേപ്രഗതിയെ വിമർശിച്ചു പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ച ഒരു സ്റ്റേറ്റുമെൻറിലും വ്യവസായീകരണത്തിൻെറ ആവശ്യം ആവർത്തിക്കുന്നു, ധനകാര്യവിശാരദനായ ഡാക്ടർ പി. ജെ. തോമ്മസ് മൗലികവ്യവസായങ്ങളും കുടിൽവ്യവസായങ്ങളും കൃഷിയോടു സംബന്ധിപ്പിച്ചു ഉയത്തിയാലല്ലാതെ ഇൻഡ്യയുടെ ആഭ്യന്തരമായ ഉയർച്ച ഉണ്ടാവുകയില്ലെന്നു ഈയ്യിടെയാണല്ലോ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചത്, വ്യവസായീകരണത്തിൻെറ അടിയന്തിരസ്വഭാവം കാണിക്കുവാൻ, അതിൽ നമ്മളും വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഇനിയും ഞാനധികം ഉദ്ധരണികൾ തേടുന്നില്ല, ഇവിടെ വ്യവസായം വേണോ എന്നുള്ളതിലല്ലാ, പുറത്തു നിന്നുള്ള ക്യാപ്പിറൽ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയാണോ എന്നുള്ളതിലാണ് അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസം മുഴച്ചുകാണുന്നതു്, നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള പണക്കാർ പണം ബാങ്കുകളിലും ഇൻഷ്വറൻസുകളിലും സുഭദ്രമായി സൂക്ഷിക്കുകയാണു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്, വന്നിച്ച വ്യവസായങ്ങളിൽ പണം മുടക്കുവാൻ അവർ മെനക്കെടുന്നില്ല. വിദേശകശക്തിയും മാൻ പവറുമുള്ള നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു പുറത്തുള്ള ആളുകൾ പണവുമായി വരുമ്പോൾ അവർ നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടുകാർക്കുകൂടി ഷയർ കൊടുക്കുവാൻ തയ്യാറായി വരുമ്പോൾ ആ സൗകര്യം നാം വിനിയോഗപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു് ബുദ്ധിപൂർവ്വമാണോ?

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: മെക്സിക്കോ, ചൈനാ, ജപ്പാൻ മുതലായ രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ ഫോറിൻ ക്യാപിറൽ ഉപയോഗിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നുള്ള വിവരം ശ്രീമ്പറിന്നറിയാമോ?

MR K. R. NARAYANAN പരിമിതമായ ഈ സമയത്തിനുള്ളിൽനിന്നു് അതിനു സമാധാനം പറയുവാൻ സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല. ഇവിടെയുള്ള സ്വന്തക്കാരേപോലെ അവർ പണം പെട്ടികളിൽ സൂക്ഷിച്ചില്ലെന്നല്ലാതെ അതിൽനിന്നെന്താണ് മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടതു്.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I do not yet understand the foreign capital. I decline to believe that capital coming from outside Shenkotta is foreign capital or capital 15 miles away from Aruvamozhy is foreign capital.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN: നമ്മുടെ മുമ്പിലുള്ള പ്രശ്നം ഇവിടെ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടേണ്ടതു രാജ്യക്ഷേമകരമാണോ, അല്ലയോ എന്നമാത്രമാണ്. അതെങ്കിൽ അതിനു എവിടെനിന്നെങ്കിലും കൃപിറൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കണം. നാം വ്യവസായം തുടങ്ങാതെയും മറ്റുള്ളവർ വ്യവസായം തുടങ്ങുന്നതിൽ അനുകൂല്യം പ്രദർശിപ്പിക്കാതെയും നിരുപണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി നിരുപണം ചെയ്യുന്നതു ബുദ്ധിപൂർവമല്ല. വൈയ്ക്കോൽ ആവശ്യമില്ലാത്ത സാരമേയങ്ങൾ, ആവശ്യമുള്ള കന്നുകാലികളുടെ തൊഴുത്തിൽകടന്നു തിന്നുകയുമില്ലാ, തീറ്റുകയുമില്ലാ, എന്ന നയമെടുക്കുന്നതു തികഞ്ഞ നിർഭാഗ്യമാണ്. അതു തീർച്ചയായും വ്യവസായപരമായ ഒരു സത്യം കൊല്ലുനയം തന്നെയാണ്. സർ, ഇൻഡ്യയെ മൊത്തത്തിൽ ഒരു യൂണിറ്റായി ഗണിച്ചു വന്നേമാത്രം പാടിയാതൊരുവക പാകിസ്ഥാനും പാടില്ലെന്നു നിർബന്ധിക്കുന്ന കാൺഗ്രസ്സുകാരെവിടെ. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനു പുറത്തുള്ള ഇൻഡ്യക്കാരെ വിദേശികളായി കരുതി അവരറിയാതെ പാകിസ്ഥാൻനടത്തുന്ന നമ്മുടെ കാൺഗ്രസ്സുകാരെവിടെ. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനു പുറത്തുനിന്നു വരുന്നപണം വിദേശമൂലധനമായി വ്യാഖ്യാനിക്കുന്ന മെസേഴ്സ് ഉദയഭാനു, ചെല്ലപ്പൻപിള്ള മുതലായവർ ഈ നയവ്യതിയാനത്തിനു എന്തു സമാധാനമാണു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു.

PRESIDENT: Order, order: Now that so much discussion has taken place on this matter, let me ask the honourable Member whether it is the suggestion that capital from outside, from Cochin or Madras, is foreign capital. Is that the idea?

MR K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Yes, it is foreign capital.

PRESIDENT: I should like to know the feelings of the honourable Member and of the Party he represents whether they consider the big capital ventures that Government have undertaken also as being subscribed to by foreigners, and that until Travancore subscribes some 20 or 25 crores, which I hope to get for the development of industries in Travancore,—until local people can develop the industries, no industry should be started. Is that the idea?

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN: മി. ഉദയഭാനു അങ്ങിനെ വ്യക്തമായി പാകിസ്ഥാൻ വാദം നടത്തിയെന്നു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞില്ലാ. മി ഉദയഭാനു ഉൾപ്പെട്ടുന്ന പാർട്ടി, അഖണ്ഡഭാരതസ്വാതന്ത്ര്യത്തിനു നിലകൊള്ളുന്ന പാർട്ടി, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ വ്യവസായീകരണം വന്നപ്പോൾ തിരു

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വിതാംകൂറിന് പുറത്തുള്ളവരെയെല്ലാം വിരോധികളെന്ന ഗണിച്ചു അങ്ങി
നെ പാകിസ്ഥാൻവാദം അറിയാതെ അനുകൂലിച്ചു, ദേശീയവീക്ഷണ
വൃത്തം സംകുചിതമാക്കുക ശരിയാണോ എന്നാണു ഞാൻ ചോ
ദിച്ചതും, ചോദിക്കുന്നതും. ഒരുകായ്ത്തിൽ വിശാലമായ മാതൃഭ
ക്തികാണിക്കുന്ന ഈ ബഹുമാന്യസുഹൃത്തുക്കൾ മറെറാരു കായ്ത്തിൽ
മാതൃഭൂമിയെ തിരുവിതാംകൂറെന്നും ആര്യാവർത്തമെന്നും കീറിക്കീറി
മാറുന്നതു ദിർഘദൃഷ്ടിയില്ലായ്മയല്ലെങ്കിൽ മറെറന്താണ്? കന്യാ
കുമാരിമുതൽ ഹിമാലയപർവ്വതംവരെയുള്ള മാതൃഭൂമിയെ. വന്ദേമാതര
ഗാനം പാടി ആരാധിക്കുന്ന ഈ ആദർശസമ്പന്നന്മാർ ഇങ്ങിനെ ഇട്ടു
ങ്ങിത്താണ ആദർശങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നുമാറുന്നതു നിർമ്മാഗ്യത്തിൽ നിർഭാ
ഗ്യമാണ്. ഈ സുഹൃത്തുക്കളുടെ ആദർശശുദ്ധിയും ആശയഖഡിയും
ഇത്രയും സംകുചിതമാവുകയാണെങ്കിൽ വാണിയന്റെ ചക്കിലെ കാള
കളെപ്പോലെ പരിമിതമായവൃത്തങ്ങളിൽ അങ്ങിനെ കറങ്ങിത്തിരിയാമെ
ന്നല്ലാതെ പുരോഗമിക്കുന്നുവെന്നു ഭാവിച്ചു വട്ടത്തിൽ പുറാമെന്നല്ലാ
തെ വാസ്തവത്തിലുള്ള പുരോഗതി ഒരിക്കലുപോലും ഉണ്ടാവുകയില്ല

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPN PILLAI: That is an insinuation against me.

PRESIDENT: The insinuation is, the honourable member is compared to an ox. (*Laughter*).

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: The insinuation is quite apparent from the talk.

PRESIDENT: What is the insinuation? The insinuation is, I take it, that those who shout 'Vande Mataram' and ask for Indian unity and yet say that capital coming 15 miles away from Shencotta is foreign capital are not consistent.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: As long as the whole federal constitution has not been put into effect and money is being separated, we have to protect our own finances.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I can understand that. So long as Indian self-Government and Indian federation have not come in, all other parts of India will be regarded as foreign to Travancore, and Travancore will be regarded as foreign by all other parts of India. I realise that.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN: എന്റെ ഉപമയിൽ Insinuation ഇല്ലെന്ന് എനിക്കുറപ്പുണ്ട്. ചക്കിൽ കെട്ടിയിരിക്കുന്ന കാളകൾ എത്ര നടന്നാലും ആ വ്യാസത്തിനു പുറത്തുപോകുന്നില്ലെന്നതുപോലെ തിരുവി
താംകൂറെന്ന മാത്രമുള്ള സങ്കുചിതവൃത്തത്തിൽ വിപുലവൃത്തങ്ങളിൽ
സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്നവരാണെന്നു പറയുന്നവർ അറിഞ്ഞോ അറിയാതെയോ
അങ്ങിനെ ചെറുതായി ചെറുതായി മാറുന്നുവെന്നു മാത്രമാണ് ഞാൻ
വീക്ഷിച്ചതു. കറങ്ങുന്ന കാളകൾ ദീർഘമായ മൈൽകുറ്റികൾ തള്ളുന്നു

[Mr. K. R. Narayanan]

ഒന്നും കരുതുന്നുണ്ടായിരിക്കാം. നമ്മുടെ ദേശാഭിമാനികൾ രാഷ്ട്രീയ മീമാംസയിലെ മൈൽക്കുറ്റികൾ തള്ളുന്നുണ്ടെന്നും കരുതാം. രണ്ടും മിഥ്യതന്നെ. ആരുവാമൊഴിയും ചെങ്കോട്ടയും രണ്ടായിക്കാണാനുള്ള ദേശാഭിമാനി ഒരു വല്ലാത്ത ദേശാഭിമാനിതന്നെ. ഇനി രണ്ടെന്നു കാണുന്നതായ ബന്ധങ്ങളില്ലാതാക്കുവാൻ "കൃപാവലി"കളുണ്ടാകണമെന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിയ്ക്കുകയല്ലാതെ എന്താണു കരണീയമായിട്ടുള്ളതു.

വ്യവസായീകരണത്തിൽ നാം വ്യക്തമായ പ്ലാനോടും അചഞ്ചലമായ വിശ്വാസത്തോടുകൂടി പരിശ്രമിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള കാര്യത്തിൽ രാജ്യസ്നേഹികൾക്കു ഭിന്നാഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടാവുകയില്ല. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ അതിപ്രധാനമായ ഒരു സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെന്റു് ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. അതു മുഖ്യപ്രധാനങ്ങളായ വ്യവസായങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഗവണ്മെന്റു നിയന്ത്രണത്തിലായിരിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതാണു്. അടുത്തകാലത്തു് ജീവഹരിലാൽ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റധീനതയിലായിരിക്കണമെന്നു ഉന്നി പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പ്രസ്താവനയിലേക്കു് ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ ക്ഷണിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. മുഖ്യപ്രധാനമായ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ എന്നുള്ള പ്രയോഗംതന്നെ ആ പ്രസ്താവനയിൽനിന്നുണ്ടു്. വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റു നിയന്ത്രണത്തിൽ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അനർഹമായ വിധത്തിൽ വ്യക്തികൾ വളരും. അപൂർവം ചിലരുടെ ആ വളർച്ച മൊത്തത്തിലുള്ള സമുദായത്തിന്റെ വളർച്ചയുടെ തടസ്സമാണെന്നുമാത്രമല്ല വളരുന്നതുതന്നെ അധികമാളുകളെ ശോഷിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുമാണു് വ്യവസായലോകത്തിലെ ഈ പുതിയ വൈക്ഷണഗതി ഗവണ്മെന്റു നല്ലതുപോലെ ധരിച്ചിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നൂറു ശതമാനവാളുകളും ഗ്രാമവാസികളാണു്. പട്ടണങ്ങളുടെ ഉയർച്ചയും പട്ടണവാസികളുടെ ഉപയോഗങ്ങൾക്കും നിർലോഭമായി ചിലവിടുന്ന മനഃസ്ഥിതി ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ ഗ്രാമവാസികളുടെ ഉപയോഗത്തിനും ഉയർച്ചയ്ക്കും കാണിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ളതു് പകൽപോലെയുള്ള ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥമാകുന്നു. ഗ്രാമീണരുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം വൈദ്യസഹായം ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യം മുതലായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ കൂടുതൽ സൗകര്യമുണ്ടാക്കണം. കുടിവെള്ളസേചനമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണം. ശുദ്ധജലവിതരണപദ്ധതികൾ ചെറുഗ്രാമങ്ങൾ തോറും വർദ്ധിക്കണം. ഗ്രാമങ്ങൾ ഉയർന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ രാഷ്ട്രമുയരുകയില്ലാ തൊണ്ണൂറുപേർ താണും പത്തുപേർ ഉയർന്നും നിന്നാൽ അതിന്റെ

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പേർ ഉയച്ച് എന്നല്ലാ താഴ്ച്ചയെന്നതന്നെയാണ്. ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചില ഗ്രാമോദ്ധാരണവേലകൾക്കു പണമുള്ള തറിയാതെ ഞാൻ പറയുകയില്ലാ. അതു കോരാത്തതുകൊണ്ടും ഗ്രാമത്തിലേയ്ക്ക് അന്നവിളിക്കുന്ന വേലകൾ തന്നെ "അന്നന്ന തുടങ്ങിയും, അന്നന്ന മുടങ്ങിയും" അങ്ങിനെ ഊർദ്ധ ശ്വാസം വലിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും ഇങ്ങിനെ പറയുന്നതാണ്.

ഞാൻ പ്രസംഗം തുടങ്ങിയതു "സാമ്പത്തികമായ ഒരു പ്ലാനോട്ടു കൂടിയല്ലാ ധനകാര്യമെമ്പർ മന്ത്രിസഭയിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ അദ്ദേഹം ആ സ്ഥാനത്തിനു അയോഗ്യനാണെന്നു ലോകം പഴിക്കും" എന്ന വെൽസിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം ഉദ്ധരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ്. നമ്മുടെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ സാമ്പത്തികമായ ഒരുറച്ചപ്ലാൻ കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. അന്നനിമിഷം വ്യവസായീകരണത്തിലുണ്ടാകുന്ന പുരോഗതി, കാർഷിക വികസന പദ്ധതി! മുതലായവ മുഖ്യ സാമ്പത്തിക പദ്ധതികളാണ്. പരോക്ഷമായിവരുന്ന ടാക്സേഷൻ മറെറാരു പദ്ധതിയാണ്. ആ വശത്തുകൂടി നമ്മുടെ ധനകാര്യമന്ത്രിയെ പഴിക്കേണ്ട ഒരാവശ്യവും ലോകത്തിനുണ്ടാവുകയില്ല. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലും വൈദ്യസഹായത്തിലും വരുത്തുന്ന പരിഷ്കാരങ്ങളും ബഡ്ജറ്റിന്റെ വിതരണവശത്തെ നിരുപണാതീതമാക്കുന്നു. ശാസ്ത്രീയഗവേഷണപദ്ധതി മറെറാരു നാഴികക്കല്ലാണ്. പെൻഷനി പദ്ധതി നാഞ്ചിനാടിനെ കലവറയാക്കുകതന്നെ ചെയ്യും നികുതി പിരിക്കുന്നതിലല്ലാ നികുതി വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നതിലാണ് ധനകാര്യദർശിയുടെ സാമർത്ഥ്യം ദൃശ്യമാകേണ്ടതെന്നു മി. വെൽസു തന്നെ ഒരിക്കൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. നമ്മുടെ ധനകാര്യദർശി മി. വെൽസിന്റെ ഈ അഭിപ്രായം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള നിരുപണത്തിനും അതീതനായി നിൽക്കുന്നു.

സോവിയറ റഷ്യ എങ്ങിനെയാക്കിതീർക്കണമെന്നുള്ള സോവിയറ നേതാക്കന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം ഞാനൊരു പുസ്തകത്തിൽ വായിച്ചു. അതു ഏതാണ്ടിങ്ങനെയാണ്. എരിപൊരികൊള്ളുന്ന ഒരു വയറു പോലും ആ മഹാരാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഒരു കോണിലും കാണാൻ പാടില്ല. ഇല്ലായ്മയുടെ പുകകയറിയ ഒരു മുഖം പോലും ദാരിദ്ര്യത്തിന്റെ കരിനിഴൽ വീണ ഒരു വിട്ടുപോലും അറിവുണ്ടാവാനുള്ള ആഗ്രഹം വിഫലമായ ഒരു മനസ്സുപോലും വിശ്രമവും വിനോദവും കൊതിച്ചു നിരാശപൂണ്ട ഒരു ഹൃദയംപോലും റഷ്യയിലുണ്ടാകരുത്. പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ഉന്നത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയുള്ള ബഡ്ജറ്റിന്റെ പരമലക്ഷ്യം അതായിരിക്കട്ടെ. ആ ലക്ഷ്യത്തിലേയ്ക്കുറ്റുക്കുവാൻ, ആ ലക്ഷ്യത്തിലേക്കെത്തുവാൻ, മാവേലിയുടെ ഭരണമില്ലാത്ത, ദുരിതമില്ലാത്ത, കള്ളവും കളവുമി

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[Mr. K. R. Narayanan.]

ല്ലാത്ത ഭരണം നടത്തുവാൻ നമുക്കു സഹകരിച്ച്, ഹൃദയം തുറന്ന് പരിശ്രമിക്കാം. ആശാസ്യവും ആശാവഹവുമായ ബഡ്ജറു് അവതരിപ്പിച്ച ഫിനാൻസു സിക്രട്ടറിയേയും ധാരാളം കർമ്മപദ്ധതികളും ഉൾക്കൊള്ളുന്ന ശോഭനമായ ബഡ്ജറു് ആസൂത്രണം ചെയ്യുവാൻ പ്രധാന പങ്കെടുത്ത ദിവാൻജിയവർകളേയും ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം അഭിനന്ദിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. V. GANGADHARAN NAIR: In welcoming the budget presented by the Financial Secretary, I shall confine myself to a few general observations, because the time at my disposal is very short. Sir, the drive and vigour with which you pursued a policy of industrialisation are remarkable and the success achieved in that direction is also remarkable. A number of industries have already been started and some are going to be started, while a few others are being started. The policy of the Government to have 51 per cent. of the shares in all the industrial concerns started here under your initiative is commendable, and I appreciate it because by this policy the Government are becoming not only the major partners of such industrial concerns but also becoming controllers of them so that they are in a position to check effectively the tendencies of exploitation noticeable in the ordinary capitalists and industrialists of the age. In view of the fact that a very large number of our industries are being vested in the hands of non-Travancoreans at present, I would request the Government to see to it that the conduct of such industries be such as to enable the people of this country to take up the entire management of such industrial concerns within a specific period which should be as short as possible. I am glad that this aspect has been realised by you and I trust that not in a distant future all the industries started here under your initiative will come into the hands of Travancoreans.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I may at once make a very definite statement. In no industry to be started will there be any hesitation in handing over the largest possible number of shares to Travancoreans and I may at once say that in any industry that has been started here, I have made it perfectly clear to the so called foreign capitalists. I do not call them foreign; they are Indian capitalists that when Travancoreans ask for shares, the others than the shares should arrange for giving I am now in a position to say that in many of these shares, if Travancoreans come forward to take Rs. 5 lakhs or 10 lakhs or 20 lakhs, I can make a definite promise that transfer can be effected to Travancoreans, say, to the Fertilisers up to Rs. 50 lakhs; to the rayon industry, Rs. 50 lakhs; to the Coir industry, the whole capital can be transferred.

MR. V. GANGADHARAN NAIR: Another aspect of industrialisation to which I should like to refer is the policy of nationalisation. Like the Transport and the Hydro-Electric schemes, it must be a definite

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policy and endeavour of Government to own all big and profitable industries of the State. The natural resources of our country should not be bartered away for individual capitalists whether they belong to this country or not. In this connection I may be permitted to offer my congratulation to you, Sir, for having taken the right step with regard to mineral resources. It is high time that we should nationalise the minerals, the coir, the cashew and the salt. Sir, the defeat of Japan is in sight, and in a short time the Japanese Fascism will also come to an end. The post-Fascist period is going to be one of wonderful changes in the economic sphere. Freedom from want will be as significant and realistic an ideal as freedom from fear or freedom of speech and worship. Freedom from want will not and cannot be achieved without accepting a socialistic structure to society. Signs are not wanting to show that the socialistic outlook has come to stay not only in our own country but throughout the length and breadth of the whole world. The workers everywhere are organising themselves. The industrial labourers have already completed their organisations. The peasants have begun to organise themselves and, Sir, the day is not far off when these workers and peasants would come forward to demand social security. No budget will be approved by them if it does not include in it a scheme for social security. Here, I may mention about the social security scheme of Dr. Adarkar to which the Government of India are paying considerable attention. I would appeal to the Government of Travancore to participate in that scheme to the fullest extent possible.

Now, let me congratulate the Government for having sent one of our eminent members of this House to England for labour training and organisation. I hope that without much delay one more member will be sent for the same training as has already been decided by Government.

Considering the industrial growth of the country, I attach great value to this step. It is highly essential that we should produce such trained men in very large numbers. I suggest that the Government should see whether it is possible to send our young men in greater numbers to the United States, Britain and Russia to study the postwar reconstruction plans and programmes of those advanced countries. I am sure that such a step will never be in vain.

Now I wish to say a word about our Agriculture and Industries. Both these things are not well attended here. Of course, the Perunchani Reservoir Scheme, the Kayal Reclamation Scheme and the Pambayar Scheme show that you have not neglected agriculture. Nevertheless, the agriculturists are not benefited by the agricultural department to any considerable or desirable extent. Unless the agriculturists are organised on co-operative lines and unless co-operative forming is developed in the State, future of the agriculturists will be gloomy and disappointing. Agriculture, marketting and cottage industries have not been successfully brought under our co-operative movement. Why is it? Because the Government have not been

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[Mr. V. Ganagadharan Nair]

very sympathetic towards them. In these days of scarcity of yarn and cloth, why not the Industries and Co-operative Departments come together to rescue the starving weavers and the clothless public by introducing spinning and weaving in the State? Khadi industry has progressed very well in British India in these days. Travancore could have easily adopted it at this juncture. The time has not yet gone. The dull Department of Industries and the Co-operative Department should jointly formulate a scheme and bring it into practice without loss of time. I know this is impossible even if the Government decide favourably. Because in the first place the red-tapism-the ugliest of isms—would not allow it. Secondly it is not very easy for two of our departments to come together to undertake a conjoint action. Perhaps the weekly conference arranged at Bhaktivilas now may help the various departments to come together for conjoint work.

Sir, I now turn to the working our village unions. I may be pardoned when I say that those village unions should be done away with as early as possible. So useless is their condition that it is absolutely unnecessary to maintain them any longer. I request you to issue an order forthwith to liquidate all these Tahsildar-nominated village unions and to constitute in their place, as suggested by my friend Mr. K. R. Narayanan, village panchayats consisting of elected representatives of the people. In my opinion, every pakuthy in our State should be blessed with a village panchayat elected on the basis of adult franchise. Such a village panchayat should be vested with large powers. Almost the entire administration of pakuthies should be entrusted to them. In that way the scheme of establishing Gram-Swaraj should be encouraged and developed. Sir, if you can formulate such a scheme and if you can put it into practice, I for one will be prepared to wait for responsible Government.

Sir, you who possess more political wisdom, administrative talents, courage and skill of statesmanship than all the Governors and white civilians in India put together, will be judged by my countrymen ultimately by the contribution you make for the political advancement of this most progressive Indian State. If the two States of Mysore and Hyderabad are ahead of Travancore in the matter of State revenue, Travancore is ahead of all other Indian States including Mysore and Hyderabad in many matters like education, temple entry, etc.,

Sir, your budget is a beautiful and striking illustration of the advancement of this country in the economic sphere under your able administration. Sir, it is for you to prove worthy of your name and position by showing an example to the whole of Indian India in the matter of giving political freedom to the people of the State.

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANA AIYAR: With the time at my disposal I propose merely to refer to one or two matters which I think, have not got their due share of attention bestowed on them in the preparation of

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the Budget. To begin with, it is true that ample provision has been made so far as the agricultural advancement of the State is concerned in that provision has been made to improve irrigation facilities in the State and for the starting of water works both at Perunchani and Pampayar. But one aspect of the matter to which I should like to draw attention is that the actual day-to-day working of the department and the sort of co operation that should exist between the people and the department have not been adverted to to the extent to which it should have been done. It is stated that a sum of Rs. 2,098 is earmarked for a soil survey of the State. What, according to me, is necessary is not a soil survey in the limited sense in which it will be possible to undertake it, but.....

PRESIDENT: I may at once mention for the information of the honourable member that this is more or less a token figure. We are expecting to get an expert on that matter and as soon as we are able to get an expert we will go over the question, and we hope to spend as much money on it as is necessary.

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANA AIYAR: Thank you for the information, sir. What according to me, is necessary is an agricultural survey of every acre of land in the State. I may be permitted to observe that Travancore can never strive to attain a position of prosperity unless the land-owners and the cultivators of Travancore are prosperous. I am of the view that they form the backbone of the State. All the measures inaugurated must be so adjusted as to help the improvement of agriculture in the State. To a large extent, my submission is that the works that have been sought to be undertaken during the ensuing year, are calculated to have that effect.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: Is the honourable member aware that Mysore has allocated Rs. 10 crores for the development of agriculture?

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANA AIYAR: I must confess that I am not aware of it. If it is so that is only an additional argument for the plea that I make that ampler funds should be placed at the disposal of the Director of Agriculture, to undertake a programme of work on the lines that I suggest. What is necessary according to me is to take up an agricultural survey of all lands that have been subjected to agriculture and all lands that may be fit for being subjected to agriculture, get expert advice as to the proper crop that may be grown with profit in each locality, the sort of manure best suited to improve the fertility of the soil in each place and try to introduce and improve agriculture on the lines suggested by an expert who goes through the whole question. We are conservative by nature, and it will not be possible by any amount of propaganda to convince or induce a ryot to adopt any method of cultivation to which he is not used, but the method I would suggest is that the Department must be enabled to open up demonstration farms in different localities, to demonstrate to the ryots how it is possible and profitable to cultivate other crops than the crops they are used to, and also to train up workmen who will be available to help

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[Mr. C. S. Lakhmana Aiyar]

neighbouring cultivators, if their services are required, to enable them to raise the crops recommended as a result of the agricultural survey to which I have referred.

With reference to another matter, I have an observation to make. That is in reference to the opening up of some portion of the Reserve Forests for agriculture. In regard to that, my submission is that if a subsidy is given to persons who would undertake cultivation in these remote places and undertake to combat the risk incidental thereto then it may be possible that some of these areas are brought under cultivation. One thing is certain, namely as far as possible our aim must be to make Travancore self contained or as much so as possible, in regard to food.

I have one suggestion to make in regard to the basic land tax which was a subject matter of reference by all the members who have spoken before me. It was stated that the amount of 4 cash that was referred to by you in the course of your speech was too high. One honourable member recommended that it may be reduced to 3 cash per cent and another gentleman wanted it to be reduced to 2 cash.

My humble submission is that the fixing of Re. 1 per acre would be the wiser course for the reason that it will not affect the holders of small plots of land appreciably but will adversely affect those who hold very many acres but do not care to cultivate them.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: My friend does not represent any rural constituency.

PRESIDENT: Order, order, The idea when the legislation comes finally into force will be that the agricultural income tax will be levied not only on lands that are cultivated but on lands that ought to be cultivated, but are not. It will be levied exactly at the same rate. That is one of the fundamental points of Government to prevent people from neglecting lands in their possession. Agricultural income tax will be levied firstly on cultivable land but which is not cultivated.

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANA AIYAR: I was merely stating that if in pursuance of the policy by which an effort is made to compel persons who are owners of large tracts of land but who refuse to cultivate them, a basic tax of a rupee per acre is imposed, that would not be felt as a burden by small land holders but would be a burden to those who are really recalcitrant in the matter. What I would suggest in this connection is that the sum fixed as the maximum to escape assessment on agricultural income may be fixed somewhere about Rs. 2500. It will not result in any large amount of loss to Government.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: At this time of the day I do not propose to cover certain aspects of the budget which I wanted to do. I will just refer to one or two points which have become debatable points in this House yesterday. Before passing on to that Sir, permit me to take you to your speech at the time of the budget of 1118, when the Financial Secretary to Government proposed to impose an agricultural income for the first time here. You gave an assurance at that time

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that this Government did not propose to impose the Excess Profits tax. But last year, Sir, under the compulsion of the Central Government you had no alternative but to impose the Excess Profits Tax, the principle of which the House accepted and also the commercial and industrial communities. But when the actual Act came into operation we found a clause which gave retrospective effect. That has really hit us very much.....

PRESIDENT: I am in a position to say that in a day or two an announcement will be made on that subject.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: Now I pass on to a consideration of the general industrial policy taken up by this Government. It was not my idea to discuss this aspect of the question because I have already discussed the industrial policy of Government last year in my budget speech. I should like to place before this House one argument which has been raised. Sir, what ever may be the definition of foreign capital whether it meant the British Indian capital or the other Indian capital, or the other Indian States capital any wise administration today has first to deal with that great problem raised by that venerable, able economist referred to by my friend Mr. Udayabhanu. Sir William Beveridge's proposals depend upon one fundamental aspect, that is, that any administration any country and any Government, whether it is national or foreign, if it wants to get on in the present day world must give full employment to all the people, who are able to work. That must be the fundamental basis of any industrial policy to be taken up by any wise administrator for general economic good of the country. Sir, whether the full employment is supported by foreign capital or by indigenous capital, that is immaterial to a wise and seasoned administrator. If indigenous capital does not come forward in Travancore it is the primary duty, the fundamental responsibility of the country's administration or those who are responsible for the running of the Government, to see that that capital is brought in here. It does not matter whether from America or England or anywhere else. Those who have read that authoritative book on the "Economic Organisation of England" by Sir V. M. Ashley will see that every country has to go through two stages in its economic development. One is a passive stage through which England passed before the industrial revolution came in. Now it is the other, namely the active stage. Till today's industrial policy was adopted in Travancore about ten years ago, Travancore was passing through that passive stage of economic development. Now we are in the other stage. People, whose technical ideas were backward or whose ideas were confined to academic aspirations, have really supposed in passing through the passive into active stage of economic organisation. But this was inevitable in the economic history of even the most industrially advanced country.

Sir, any student of the elementary economic organisation of England will agree that before the industrial revolution, and even during the middle stages of that period, the economic life of the country was really controlled by the continental economic interests, I have

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[Mr. K. C. Karunakaran]

no time, Sir, to give you an idea of how the Hugenots dominated the economic life of that country. Nobody can dispute that fact. If any country wants to go through its industrial stage, it must see that full employment is given to every worker If an administrator or a government who is responsible for running the State fails in that, that administrator or that government fails in its fundamental duty.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : Does the honourable member suggest that employment should be given to everybody even though foreign agencies ?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN : As you tried to point out on the authority of the Atlantic Charter, what does full employment mean ? Full employment means that everything that a man wants for his need as contemplated in the Atlantic Charter, will be met. I can say that no country will, hereafter, be contented with partial employment, semi-employment or under-employment or unemployment. That is one thing which every government has to solve hereafter, and I hope, Sir, that that is the idea with which this government is starting these big industries.

I want to develop one other point. Last year I attempted to support the post-war reconstruction schemes of this Government with certain statements called from mathematical statistics. Like Mr. S. Krishna Aiyar I have also had occasion to travel outside Travancore. I have also come across critical statements about the policy which you have laid before this country. Let me take just one aspect. I was asked by very advanced economic student this question: Will not a depression follow the seemingly prosperous condition of today, according to the trade cycle ? Will not your schemes come within that period ?' Last year, I was trying, in my own way, to show that although a stage of depression occurred during the prosprrity period which followed the last war, this time your programmes will not come before the depression sets in according to the trade cycle. That is my answer to the economic students outside Travancore.

Now, regarding the question raised by my friends about the impracticability of the schemes, I wish to say a few words. I have got certain statements, but I have no time to go through them all now. I would simply invite their attention to the recent authoritative statement made by the Prime Minister of the Dominion of New Zealand. Mr. Peter Fraser, The present labour Prime Minister of the Dominion, gave out a scheme for the Post-war economic development of his Dominion. If you study that scheme you will find that his scheme and this Government's scheme are similar in all respects except in some local details. When I was listening to the Financial Secretary's speech, I was wondering whether he had borrowed the Prime Minister of New Zealand's ideas or wnether that Prime Minister had borrowed Mr, Narayana Aiyar's ideas. Perhaps it is a case of great wits jumping together.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR : Not heard.

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MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN : Yes, Sir. All economists are agreed about the trade cycle ; the only difference of opinion is with regard to the periodicity of those Trade Cycles. Some say that the cycle occurs once in five years, some put it as eight or ten years.

Sir, I was trying to justify the position of Government in getting foreign capital for the industrialisation of this country. I am going a step forward. Undoubtedly, Sir, today the world situation is changing from power poli ics to power economics. It is a truism that without the substance of economic independence, political independence is a mere shadow. It is realising these facts that the representatives of our big finances and industries have proceeded to the United Kingdom and the United States. And if the rumoured negotiations between American and British financiers come through, economics will have its say in the country's fortunes. In this connection, I would advice this Government to keep themselves in touch with outside Travancore; not only with regard to the finances but with regard to starting these industries and in securing co-operation. I feel that, sooner or later, there is going to be some change in the Government of British India and the big industris and financiers in British India are going to have a say in the forward economic policies of that Government. Realising that, if now the Travancore Government will come into contact with these people, then when the time comes, this country will have established a policy of Coordination and co-operation with the rest of India and this country will then be able to follow an All India economic policy.

With regard to the fixation of tariff, I find that there is no principle accepted by this Government. By examining the tariff value.....

.....

PRESIDENT : I think that is a very complicated question. You can bring it up at the customs debate.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN : Yes, Sir.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED : On a point of order, Sir. Bearing in mind that some of the members were not able to catch your eye, I propose that half a day may be allowed for the general discussion.

The question that half a day more may be set apart for general discussion of the budget, was put to the House. The House indicated its assent.

PRESIDENT : So the actual voting on demands for grants will start tomorrow afternoon instead of tomorrow morning.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Is it not better that the Finacial Secretary speaks last ?

PRESIDENT : Yes. Mr. K. A. Mahomed may now speak.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED : Sir, I congratulate the Financial Secretary and all those who assisted him in preparing this lucid and careful budget which is now before this House for discussion. He proved to

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[Mr. K. A. Mahomed]

be really conservative when he budgetted the receipts for the current year at so low a figure as Rs. 532·29 lakhs. The Dewan President forecast that our income would be well over 6 crores of Rupees. The prediction of the Dewan that our income for the current year would be a little more than six crores of rupees has come true which is the highest revenue among the Indian States except Hydrabad and Mysore.

The budget estimates for the next year are phenomenally high and it is indeed a pleasure to be associated with the administration of the State at such a period un-precedented financial prosperity.

At this point, it is interesting to examine whether we have reached this height without any new taxations. From 1117 onwards the rates on incomes have been increased. A surcharge has been collected. Income-tax agricultural income has been levied from 118 onwards. Our tariffs and excise duties have also been increased, But here I may point out that any modern Government is fully justified in resorting to these progressive methods of taxation. All the great financiers of the world are agreed that this form of taxation is the best form, because it does not, in reality, affect the have-nots.

Sir, In your budget statement for 120 you have stated that the Government propose to levy a duty on Excess Profits and a sum of Rs 25. lakhs have been estimated on that account. If I remember correct you stated that this Government was averse to resort to the imposition of this duty though there was pressure from out side for the imposition of this duty in conformity with the other parts of India then you said that before the war that the prices of all commodities in the states on which the prosperity of the state depended went down in prices terrifically and tremendonsly and some time should be allowed to recoup from this depressions.

THE PRESIDENT : That is not quite accurate. This Government took the view that they had done as much as they should to deal with the question of inflation. Their opinion also was that, unlike other parts of India, this country was entirely dependent for its revennes on agricultural products like cocoanut, copra, coir, pepper, ginger, cardamom, tea and so forth which had gone down greatly during the year 1938—39, so-much-so that tea estates were to be had for the asking and paddy lands were also being freely negotiated. Having regard to these things, this Government took the view that these persons who had for years sustained loss, may well be excused if they made some profits during the war, and out of the war, and that this Government had enough funds at their disposal not to rely upon Excess Profits Tax. But the representative of the Government of India was here and he and my friend, Sir Jeremy Raisman both took the view that one state, however exceptional its case may be according to its own look out, could not follow a line of policy different from the rest of India. And they pressed us very strongly to come into line with the rest of

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India in regard to the Excess Profits Tax. I did so with certain reservations which are embodied in the Statute, namely that in so far as there are pioneering industries any Excess Profits Tax would be waived. Certain other special exceptions were also made with the consent and approval of the Government of India of course, their consent was a *sine qua non*. So the imposition of the Excess Profits Tax was made not because this Government thought that it was essential for the normal work of the State but because this Government wanted to be in line with the rest of India as to the combating of inflation.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: Thank you, Sir. Here I may point out that commerce and industry were able to recoup themselves only by the middle of 1942 and we thought that this Act will have only prospective effect, and no retrospective effect.

We thought that this Government will have only a prospective effect and no retrospective effect, but when it came to actual operation we are told that we are to be taxed from 1st September 1942 onwards.

PRESIDENT: Evidently you did not catch what was said by me. There will be an announcement on this matter in the course of a day or two.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: Sir, another very noteworthy feature of the present Budget is that there is no proposal for any new taxation. But the Financial Secretary has stated that there is a proposal for a change in the assessment of land tax and that too is not with a view to the increasing of the revenue but with the object of equalising the burden on the cultivators on a more just and equitable basis. Here, as many of my friends have pointed out, this House is in agreement with the Government's proposal as this will relieve the agriculturists to a very great extent. But our fear is that in the actual operation of the law some hardship may ensue.

PRESIDENT: Many honourable members have said so and I have not yet got any illumination from anybody. But how the hardship is going to be experienced by the persons concerned is not clear. Presumably, the proverthicar however pre-potent or dominating he might be, is not apt to oppress the people getting a net income of something like Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 2,500. The presumption is that wealthy people are less liable to persecution by the proverthicar. Where does the element of proof of trouble by the proverthicar come in?

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: I will try to explain my position. Now, we have to collect the agricultural income tax for incomes received above Rs. 5,000. If that level is brought down then.....

PRESIDENT: Suppose it is kept at 5,000 do you expect persecution?

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: If it is handled by the income tax authorities as it is now done, we think that things will go on properly because these—

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PRESIDENT: Supposing the whole of this administration is taken away from the proverthicar and kept in the income tax department, will the honourable members consent to that? Will they think that there will be no oppression then?

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: Something of that sort would suit. As I suggested, the proverticars have been in the rut for a very long time. Even with regard to the paddy purchase, they were doing the thing very badly. So our fears about them. But if the accounts were to be gone into by the income tax authorities as other commercial and agricultural accounts are gone into, the position will be better. If the proverthicars and Tahsildars are entrusted with the work of assessment they may do it according to their whims and fancies and there is every possibility of oppression. That is why I suggested that the amount fixed for agricultural income tax should be lowered to Rs. 2 or 3 thousand when it will be possible to collect 20 lakhs and when there is a deficit in the revenue the amount may be increased for assessment.

It is evident from the Budget itself that no increment in taxation is contemplated for the income budgetted under land revenue shows no decrease and the income estimated under agricultural income shows no increase. The next important item of income is under excise. Budget estimates under this head *i. e.* 'excise' income stood for 1119 at 73,81,300 and according to the revised estimate for 1120 the receipts under this head rose to 1,27,40,000. The Budget estimate for the year 1121 will stand at 1,31,89,000. Here I may pass to point out that whatever may be the utility of these incomes, one must surely deplore this steady increase under this head. It is stated both in the official reports and statements that as the purchasing power of the workers in the State has increased due to inflation, they drink more and therefore we get a big revenue under this head.

PRESIDENT: What is the point about?

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: For a modern Government it may look little harnassing and awkward. It is no compliment to any progressive administration to openly admit that their people drink more and more day after day.

PRESIDENT: Remember that no modern Government, apart from the Congress Government which was implementing prohibition up to a point, goes on without this revenue. That is existing all over the world.

MR. K. A MAHOMED: Even without reference to any outside Government I will put it for the consideration of the House and the Government that—

PRESIDENT: You are perfectly entitled to say that this Government, whatever other Governmennts might do, should have a policy of prohibition. But the honourable member will remember that at the same time that two States in South America and some places in the United States and New Zealand who tried prohibition have practically given up except the Congress Government.

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MR. K. A. MAHOMED: I am conscious of the fact that even America for some time went to dry and came again to wet. Apart from that, this problem has to be faced so earnestly that this Government should take some step or other to eradicate this evil. The policy advocated by the department is that the department will make it more and more difficult to get at drink. But the actual figures show that year after year there is an increase in the number of trees that has been leased out for tapping and the arrack to be distilled is also on the increase I submit for the consideration of this House and the Government that this question may be seriously tackled and some definite policy may be pursued to dissuade people from drinking.

Next in importance is the income under commercial heads. I may be excused to observe that income from our commercial enterprise is rather not very encouraging in the sense that during the inflationary time there would have been better income under the State Transport, Ceramic factory at Kundara and our coastal navigation. The Budget estimate for the next year shows a reduction of 2·5 lakhs from receipts under State Transport. The Financial Secretary has tried to explain this by saying that it is not because there is reduction under the actual receipts but because of allowances and pay for the establishment that has increased so much so our receipts are lost 2·5 lakhs Rs. from the last year. That explanation is not convincing because it is a commercial enterprise and we are more or less faced with the fact of weat we actually get from the enterprise rather than how much we pay.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member will realise that we have spent about six lakhs which brought about a net profit of 15 lakhs and in the rubber concern where we spent about 9 lakhs the profit realised was 14½ lakhs.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: Every private transport service are able to earn a very good margin of profit and our transport department has been favoured with lease lend vehicles, spare parts etc.

PRESIDENT: We got from the Government of India on the same terms as they gave to any other person.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: So also with regard to our clay factory. During this war period this industry would have made exceptionally good profits, for the clay we find at Kundara is famous for its fineness whiteness and pasticity.

Coming to coastal transport for the year 1119 there was over one lakh budgeted for and our actual receipts showed only 25,000 and I find no amount has been budgeted for the current year. So, taking these things into consideration, what I submit is that our commercial enterprises do not show results which we would have expected during these days of inflation. It is not a question of whether we have earned a profit or not, But in these days the income is not as one would have expected.

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[Mr. K. A. Mahomed]

I will come to the expenditure side of our Budget. Till recently, it was thought that success or failure of a budget depended upon the surplus one would have to set aside. But now that conception of things have changed. It is the policy of every financier that more importance is given to the expenditure side rather than to the income or the surplus side. Taking that as the criterion, I am sorry to point out that our budget can be said to be a successful budget. For that the Financial Secretary has stated that something like 70 lakhs of rupees which has been budgeted for spending last year that is during the current year has not been spent and that has been credited to the post-war reconstruction fund. His explanation is that he anticipated that war in western theatre would be over earlier and that factor would secure foreign goods for our constructional purposes. Therefore he consoles the House that this amount will not lapse as it did before but will be credited to the post-war reconstruction fund. That explanation takes us nowhere, for the common people do not know what we are doing; they are not interested in all our schemes and talks. What they are interested is about their roads, bridges, ferries, schools and hospitals and so on. They ask why the roads have not been maintained properly, why new roads havenot been constructed, why the rotten planks of bridges have not been replaced and so on. We representatives of the people have been confronted with this question and any amount of explanation on our side that we have got a surplus budget, we are setting up large amounts for reconstruction, all these will not convince them. Therefore my submission is that whatever amounts have been allotted, they should be spent during the year for which that has been allotted and no amount should be allowed to lapse, nor should remain unspent.

PRESIDENT: The position is this. There are 13 members more who have yet to take part in discussion. The House has now decided that half a day should be given, that is until lunch time to-morrow. After allowing half an hour for interpellations for the morrow, there will be just time for every member to talk for 5 minutes. With the balance time available some more time can be given for the Financial Secretary and one or two other Heads of departments as well. That will be the programme.

The House adjourned at 6 p.m.

S. VAIDYANATHA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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